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# THE TIMES

The law and private  
vendettas:  
Lord Shawcross, page 20



ees walking past chanting policemen after speaking at the Police Federation conference yesterday.

## Mr Rees jostled by jeering police delegates

Chris Barrell  
Reporter

Rees, the Home Secretary, was booed and jeered by a group of police officers as he left the Police Federation conference at Scarth Gap yesterday.

A noisy demonstration by a hundred police officers in the conference hall in stark contrast to the silence that greeted him as he left.

Mr Rees, 40 minutes in the hall, was escorted by a group of police officers to the door. As he climbed into a car, he was jeered and booed by the police officers who had travelled from Northampton yesterday morning.

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load of guffaw when Mr Rees said the "new" bill paying his subscription to the National Union of Teachers. The interruption was quickly silenced by a chorus of "shushes".

That one note, however, had repercussions. Immediately about a dozen delegates from Devon and Cornwall walked out as a protest because the silence had been broken. Later it was learnt that the delegates who could not contain their march may be charged by the police.

After his speech Mr Rees was loudly booed as he left the room. He said there was nothing he could do for the police under the umbrella of the Home Office. He said he was "fed up" with the "noise and disturbance".

In the next round of pay talks, however, it was clear that the police were going to get a pay rise. Mr Rees said he was "fed up" with the "noise and disturbance".

is strong disagreement and you feel powerful about the situation. I hope there is some way we can play a part together."

Last week Mr Rees said the police of a maximum of 54 a week. The police have claimed 56 a week and have walked out of the Police Council, their negotiating body.

On Tuesday the delegates, representing 104,000 police officers, voted overwhelmingly to demand the right to strike. The motion was passed by 104 votes to 10.

The delegates were in a more generous mood yesterday when Mr James Jardine, their chairman, was giving a glowing account of the police's performance after addressing them.

Mr Jardine, his voice at times heavy with emotion and anger, turned to Mr Rees and said: "We want the full purchasing power of the 1971 link standard set in 1969 to be restored to this police. This alone would require an increase of more than £15 a week immediately."

"We want a proper career structure and decent differentials. We want our pay scales to recognize the unique personal dangers now faced by the police service."

"We want our pay to reflect the police officers' commitment to the office of constable. We want our pay to acknowledge the contribution we have made as police officers to the great strides towards greater efficiency which have taken place in recent years. We have always cooperated with new working methods and technology. Now it is time that our cooperation was recognized in our pay."

Mr Jardine and his executive, however, suffered a setback when they endorsed a resolution calling for the federation to seek affiliation with the TUC. The motion was defeated.

As Mr Rees left for London, after shaking hands with Mr Jardine in the foyer of the Royal Hotel, where they had lunch together, he said: "I have had experience before of noisy demonstrations: the National Front, the IRA, and many others, especially in Trafalgar Square, and I will now add this one today to my list. I expected the demonstration, but I must say I do not think it did the police service any good at all."

"It was not very pleasant. The angry silence inside I was prepared for, because I was tipped off about it beforehand. I just wanted to get on record what I had to say."

Asked about his reception in the conference hall, he added: "I cannot pretend I liked it. It was done in a very dignified manner, though. He did not think the officers' commitment to the office of constable, the police, the right to strike. Mrs Thatcher's pledge, page 3. Leading article, page 21."

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## Warning to Labour on Trotskyist 'entryism'

By George Clark  
Political Correspondent

Rejecting again the demand for disciplinary action against Trotskyists who have infiltrated the Labour Party, the national executive decided yesterday to circulate a document warning constituency parties of the activities of the "Trotskyist tendency".

But the executive, evidently fearing that the material might be used partially in the press to depict the party as being "run by a bunch of Trotskyists", decided that it would be circulated to NEC members and other sections of the party the full weight of documentation which has been assembled on "entryism".

The report was introduced by Mr Foot, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons, who was chairman of the subcommittee (headed by Mr John Chalmers) that produced it.

During the debate a hint was dropped that even if NEC members were allowed to study the Transport House archives to research the documentation might take them "a day or two" to get through it.

Mr Foot said it was not true that there was no room in the party for Trotskyists. Their point of view was essential to any democratic debate.

"But we have to make clear that we do not believe in the Trotskyist Movement's tactics of pushing two hostages, both blindfolded and with ropes around their necks, from the hijacked train in the north of The Netherlands."

The hostages, a young man and a woman in white robes, were put outside the train at 8.45 pm (7.45 pm BST) and were made to stand on the embankment for 45 minutes. The terrorists then pulled them back into the train.

Shortly afterwards another man, also dressed in a white robe, blindfolded and bound, was pushed out of the train and made to stand there for an hour before he was taken back inside.

After another Cabinet meeting this afternoon to discuss attempts to release the hostages, Mr Joop den Uyl, the Dutch Prime Minister, said: "The fact that no disaster has taken place since the ultimatum expired gives us reason for hope."

The terrorists had threatened to begin executing their hostages - 105 children and six teachers at a school in Bornsmidde and 55 passengers on the train - if the Government had not complied by 2 pm (1 pm BST) with their demand for the release from jail of 31 South Moluccans. However, the deadline passed without incident.

Mr Andries van Agt, the Minister of Justice, has made clear that the Government gives priority to obtaining the release of the schoolchildren and 12. They have been in the school since early Monday morning. Their headmaster said today by telephone that they were in "good health". Camp beds, blankets, regular food supplies and sweets have been accepted by the terrorists.

After the Cabinet meeting it was announced that a telephone hotline had been established at the terrorist request between the train and the school. That

## No evidence found of bribery or corruption as investigations go on, Leyland chairman says

By Edward Townsend

Sir Richard Dobson, chairman of British Leyland, yesterday made what amounts to the firmest denial yet of the bribery allegations in the Daily Mail last week. He told the company's annual meeting that a full investigation was proceeding and no evidence of bribery or corruption had been found.

He said: "It is not, and has not been, the policy of this company to secure business by corrupt means. Although certain key documents on which the charge was based have been proved to be false, the company's name has been damaged, particularly abroad."

Our distributors and agents overseas, many of whom have been with us for a long time, are remunerated at agreed rates of commission relating to services required of them: these services include carrying stocks of vehicles and parts, sales promotion and after-sales services, as well as provision of local knowledge."

Sir Richard said a full investigation by the National Enterprise Board, which was proceeding, would reinforce the company's own inquiries.

"So far we have found no evidence to suggest that any payments have been made other than to the company's accredited agents or representatives in the ordinary course of business, and we confidently expect to be cleared of the charges and innuendoes which have been levelled at us."

The affair is effectively sub judice at this time but I can say that we have found no evidence of bribery or corruption, or any departure from the principles set out in the OECD guidelines last year in the matter of offering financial inducements to foreign government officials."

It has been expected that Leyland directors would face fierce cross-examination from shareholders about the allegations but in the event not one direct question about the

alleged "slush fund" was asked. A small proportion of Leyland's 100,000 private shareholders attended the meeting, held at the Dorchester Hotel, in London, while the AEB, which holds 88 per cent of the shares, was represented by a proxy.

Sir Richard said later that preliminary results from the investigation might emerge by the end of this week. In his view there were many "unreliable" witnesses involved in the allegations and he had no knowledge of bribery or corruption.

There was no concrete evidence, he added, that the charges had affected orders. He hoped that people would wait to see what emerged from the NEB and government inquiry before taking any action, although naturally they were nervous.

In his speech to shareholders Sir Richard said it had been understood from the start that the provision of further tranches of money to British Leyland from public funds

Continued on page 23, col 1

## Blindfolded hostages pushed from train

From Sue Masterman  
The Hague, May 25

South Moluccan terrorists tonight pushed two hostages, both blindfolded and with ropes around their necks, from the hijacked train in the north of The Netherlands.

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## Liverpool win the European Cup

Rome, May 25.—Liverpool became only the second English and third British club to win the European Cup when they defeated Borussia Dortmund in the final at the Stadio Olimpico, Rome, 3-1 in the final here tonight.

The better side on the night won, as two of Europe's strongest sides produced a match which lived up to all expectations, after a slow opening 20 minutes. A grinning Emyr Hughes, Liverpool's captain, received a great roar from the 18,000 Anfield supporters, who made the long journey to Rome, as he lifted the highly coveted silver trophy.

Liverpool's victory was hard-fought and well-earned. Borussia, the West German champions, could not find an answer to Liverpool's hustling style. Liverpool were cool and controlled, while Borussia, as Kennedy and McDermott controlling the middle of the field.

Keegan was closely marked by Vogts, the Borussia captain, throughout the match, so Liverpool relied on fast breaks by their midfield quartet to create openings. In the 26th minute, McDermott found space in Borussia's penalty area and latched on to Heighway's pass to score with a right-footed shot.

Borussia levelled the scores in the 30th minute when Simonsen capitalized on a mistake by Case. His flick shot gave Clemente no chance. Liverpool now survived a crisis but within 15 minutes they regained command.

Smith beat a crowd of players to head in Heighway's corner in the sixty-fifth minute and Liverpool were back in the lead. Finally, Vogts gave away a despairing penalty in the eighty-third minute when he brought down Keegan, who had been in sparkling form. Neil converted from the penalty spot to complete Liverpool's victory.

## uba sends advisers to Ethiopia

Fred Emery  
London, May 25

uban military advisers have arrived in Ethiopia to assist the Marxist Government in a battle against the Tigrayan and Somali rebellions.

A dispatch from the Somali capital of Mogadishu, the news agency Reuters said, said that 50 Cuban military advisers already arrived and that up to 100 more were expected in a few weeks.

State Department spokesman confirmed that it had received reports that 50 military advisers had arrived, and warning that it found this very disturbing development.

Mr. Rodding, Carter's spokesman, said that the United States did not confirm the prediction that 500 more Cubans were sent.

But if this proves true, it is a very serious development, he declared. "We already made it clear that no intervention in Africa activity that could impede improvement in our relations with Cuba."

United States and Cuba recently signed military agreements, and they are planning to station their own advisers in each other's capitals. Embassies of countries which represent their interests in Ethiopia.

The Ethiopian Government ended its military aid relationship with the United States.

ordered American military personnel stations, at once communications to leave the country. diplomatically, the American position has been that the Cuban intervention in Africa will cause disruption of Russian relations with Africa's hostile neighbours in Africa.

a report said that Arab troops in Somalia believed Cuba was also prepared to in combat troops but that Cuban sources doubted this. a report suggested that a decision was taken by the Cubans that it marked Cuba's end military engagement in Africa civil war—after the Cuban advisers have, ever, also been reported in number of other African states, including Uganda.

## Irish Government sets June 16 poll date

By Christopher Walker  
Dublin

The Irish Republic is about to embark on a potentially disastrous general election campaign, that might have severe repercussions for the future of British security policy in Northern Ireland.

Mr. Cosgrave, the Prime Minister, has set the date for the election at June 16. The announcement was made on a brief national television broadcast after an audience with Dr. Patrick Hillery, the President, formally to request the dissolution of the Dail.

There were angry scenes during the election campaign, as the Dail yesterday, the Government used a quill pen to end discussion on several measures including the annual finance bill.

Protests over "jackboots" tactics were made in the House as the final vote was taken and won despite repeated protests from the Fianna Fail opposition.

Mr. Charles Haughey, a prominent opposition spokesman, said: "The Government have done a serious disservice to this House and to our parliamentary democracy by the tactics they have adopted."

"It is expected that the atmosphere of rancour and acrimony that has marked the final debates of the Parliament will make the three-week campaign a bitter one."

Mr. Cosgrave will seek to win a second term for the coalition of Fine Gael and Labour, which took power in March 1973. If he succeeds it will be the first time in the history of the state that a coalition government has won two successive victories at the polls, which are conducted on a proportional representation system.

With an inflation rate estimated at more than 16 per cent and high unemployment, economic issues are expected to dominate the campaign, with the differing attitudes of the two main opponents to the national security and Northern Ireland.

The British Government is known to be anxious for a victory for Mr. Cosgrave's coalition, which has promised a significant improvement in cross-border security.

## Mr Murray predicts agreement

By Paul Roudledge  
Labour Editor

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, predicted yesterday that there would be an "understanding" between the Government and the unions on pay and economic issues after phase two but added that it would not be on the lines of the eight per cent of the past two years.

The understanding, which becomes less and less stringent as trade union conferences approach, is expected to be a "very wide" one, covering the relationship with the Government, but Mr Gerry Gilman, general secretary of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, said last night: "The past two years have been willing to sacrifice their living standards in the belief that this would help the Government solve the problems of inflation. Their belief has been shown to be mistaken."

## £3.50 pension increase for married couple

Pension increases in November of £2.20 for single people and £3.50 for a married couple have been announced by Mr. Ronald, Secretary of State for Social Services. The new pensions will be £17.50 and £25 a week, a rise of 14.4 per cent. There were protests from welfare charities and the TUC said the increases were inadequate and too late.

## Fodens may resist £8m Rolls-Royce bid

There were indications last night that an £8.3m bid by Rolls-Royce Motors for Fodens, the Cheshire-based commercial vehicle manufacturer, would be resisted. Fodens, owned by a City rescue less than two years ago, is a direct trading partner of Rolls-Royce Motors, which supplies engines for the growing military vehicle business, and some of the engines for lorries.

## Prince Fahd denies oil embargo threat

Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia said in Washington yesterday that oil would not be used as a weapon. He assured President Carter that there would not be another embargo on oil exports to the United States in the hope of compelling the Americans to coerce Israel into concessions. He denied Middle East reports about the threat of an embargo.

## Hope for pact

The Government hopes to continue the Labour-Liberal pact in the next parliamentary session, or until it chooses an opportune moment for a general election. But without a firm Cabinet decision backing Mr Callaghan's pledge to EEC governments to try to direct elections by May-June 1978, the pact could founder.

## Crumbling roads

Highway maintenance cuts are contributing to casualties. Roads and pavements are crumbling so fast that local authorities may seek a change in the law to protect themselves from accident claims by drivers, cyclists and pedestrians, the Institution of Municipal Engineers says.

## Trudeau poll gains

Liberal Party candidates have won five of the six seats at stake in by-elections in Canada. Their strong showing will increase pressure on Mr Trudeau, the Prime Minister, to call an early general election. Four of the victories were in Quebec.

## Ex-editor attacked

Mr Muhammad Helkhal, former editor of the Cairo newspaper Al-Ahram and confidant of President Nasser and Sadat, is expected to be arrested, according to people who have visited him. President Sadat is personally attacking him in signed weekly articles in a magazine.

## Fleet Street clash

Mr Charles Wintour, managing director of the Daily Express, made a bitter personal attack on Mr Vere Harcourt, chairman of Associated Newspapers, which publishes the Daily Mail. He accused him of starting costly and uneconomic ventures in an effort to compel a competing newspaper to surrender and conceded the Mail's behaviour over Leyland.

## Amin visit 'on'

President Amin has told a meeting of Ugandan Government officials that he will definitely attend the Commonwealth conference whether the British like it or not.

## MP ill

John Corrie, aged 64,ervative MP for Bournemouth, East, is seriously ill at home at Salisbury, with d pneumonia and acute

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## HOME NEWS

## Changes in matters of privilege in the offing

By Hugh Noyes  
Parliamentary Correspondent  
Westminster

After a protest that Tories were just as liable as trade union Labour MPs to be sponsored and sponsored by their independence, the Commons agreed by 233 votes to 45 that a motion passed earlier this week at the annual conference of the National Union of Public Employees (NUPE) should be referred to the Committee of Privileges.

The Speaker had earlier ruled, at the request of Mr Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch and Lymington, that the union's threat to withdraw support from its sponsored MPs unless they stopped supporting public spending cuts was a prima facie breach of privilege.

Although Mr Foot, Leader of the House, rose swiftly to move the necessary motion to refer the matter to the committee, some Labour MPs were clearly suspicious of Mr Adley's motives.

Mr Dennis Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, at once began a lengthy dissertation on the dangers of sponsorship in general and secret sponsorship of Tory MPs in particular. He suspected that large sums of money from companies and interests all over the country were ending up in the welcome pockets of Conservative MPs.

How could anyone know, he asked, how many organisations had threatened to withdraw their cash if Tory MPs did not do as they were told?

Although Mr Foot did his best to soothe Mr Skinner's injured feelings with hints that all sorts of changes over the way the House dealt with matters of privilege were in the offing, the member for Bolsover was not to be put off.

If the NUPE resolution was allowed to become a precedent it would be a dangerous intervention in the normal democratic traditions of this country, Mr Prentice thundered, apparently forgetting that much the same sort of thing has been tried by trade unions on many occasions in recent years. MPs, he added, were not in the House to be bought and sold.

What Mr Prentice had said, the Leader of the House remarked, only served to illustrate the difficulty of having a debate before they had looked at the precedents and all the facts, as the Committee of Privileges would do if MPs would only allow them to get on with it. On that happy note, the House divided.

Parliamentary report, page 6

## Corrections

Lord Canning was the first Viceroy of India, not Lord Lytton, as stated on May 17.

An article on May 5 on Washington Old Hall may have left an impression that the hall was used only as a community centre. The National Trust asks us to point out that the hall is open to the public. The trust has furnished the ground floor as a typical manor house of the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. The community centre is in an upper floor.

## £2.20 pension rise inadequate, TUC says

By Pat Healy  
Social Services Correspondent

Pensioners are to rise in November by £2.20 a week for the single pensioner and £3.50 for a married couple, giving new pensions of £17.50 and £28 a week.

Making the announcement in the Commons yesterday, Mr Healy, Secretary of State for Social Services, said the increase would be 14.4 per cent, more than enough to cover inflation since the last rise.

Coming just after the Treasury announcement that inflation last month was 17.5 per cent up on April, 1976, Mr Healy's statement was greeted with protests that the Government was not fulfilling its obligations to pensioners.

The TUC condemned it as inadequate and too late, and the Child Poverty Action Group threatened to take the Government to the High Court, as it did over the increases last year.

At a press conference, Mr Healy defended the increases as being based on a firm assessment of inflation rates by November. The April, 1976, figure was not out of line with government forecasts, he said, and by the summer inflation would be falling again because the effects of the last year's drought had been absorbed.

He said the Government was not entitled to be optimistic about future price trends, Mr Healy said.

Pressed to say what the Government would do if its estimates proved wrong, Mr Healy said that was for the Government to decide if by some mischance inflation rose by more than 13 per cent in November compared with last November. He was confident that the estimates would prove correct and that pensioners would have a real increase in their standard of living in November.

The Government has decided to give pensioners a slightly

## INCREASED BENEFIT RATES

	Proposed weekly	Existing weekly
Standard weekly, widows' & rent pension, widowed mother's allowance	17.50	15.30
Single person	10.50	9.30
Wife or other adult dep	14.70	12.90
Unemployment and sickness benefit		
Single person	14.70	12.90
Wife or other adult dep	19.10	16.90
Married woman (normal rate)	14.70	12.90
Maternity allowance		
Invalidity allowance payable with invalidity pension, when incapacity began before age 65	9.70	8.20
45-60 men, 55 women	2.30	2.00
	1.15	1.00
Old persons' pension		
Widow	6.30	5.80
Other persons	10.50	9.30
Non-contributory invalidity pension		
Invalid care allowance	10.50	9.30
Increase of non-contributory invalidity pension or invalid care allowance for wife or other adult dep	6.30	5.80
Proposed ordinary weekly		
Proposed long-term weekly		
Existing ordinary weekly		
Existing long-term weekly		
Supplementary benefit, ordinary scale		
Husband and wife	22.55	20.35
Person living alone	14.50	12.70
Other persons		
Not less than 18	11.60	10.15
Less than 18 but not less than 16	8.80	7.50
Less than 16 but not less than 13	6.10	5.35
Less than 13 but not less than 11	4.80	4.35
Less than 11 but not less than 8	4.10	3.85

\* Where a retirement pension, claimant or dependent is aged 60 or over, 25p is included in the above figures.

† Excluding 25p age addition.

greater increase than people on short-term benefits, such as sickness and unemployment benefits. It has done so by applying a 14 per cent increase across the board and rounding up to the nearest 10p for pensioners and other people on long-term benefits, and rounding down for short-term beneficiaries.

Mr Healy said that the change did not amount to a reversal of the action of Mrs Castle, his predecessor, who last year gave short-term beneficiaries an increase of 1 per cent more than pensioners. Mr Healy said the figures in both cases were much the same, and it would be wrong to put short-term beneficiaries at a disadvantage.

He has decided not to reduce the number of children's rates paid with supplementary benefits, as had been proposed earlier amid strong opposition from Civil Service unions. Instead the issue will be considered by a review on the supplementary

benefits scheme, so that it will be subject to public discussion.

Mr Healy confirmed that the family income supplement will be going up in November, and that the non-contributory pension for disabled housewives will begin on November 14, the date when all other benefits will be increased. The details of both would not be announced until later.

The full cost of the increases announced yesterday will be £1,500m in a full year. Supplementary benefits will be raised by 14.4 per cent for people on the long-term rates, and by 14 per cent for those on short-term rates, the same level of increase as for other social security benefits. Housing and dietary allowances paid with supplementary benefit will also go up by 14 per cent.

The TUC said: "In the last year, in the Supplementary Benefit Review, we sought early increases of £4 for a married couple and £2.50 for a single person. We are therefore disappointed that the Government has not been able to ensure that pensioners receive the same increases as work people generally and to pay the increases at an earlier date."

Mr Frank Field, director of the Child Poverty Action Group, said the poor would greet the new increases with disbelief. They knew, as the Government did, that their rates were rising now at 17.5 per cent and were going to rise faster. Because the poor spent disproportionately more on food and heating their experience of price increases was greater.

The group would take the Government to the High Court to challenge whether it was fulfilling its statutory obligation to protect benefits against price rises if inflation proved to be running at a higher rate by November.

Mr Hugh Faulkner, honorary director of Help the Aged, accused the Government of breaking its own rules. When pensioners were assured that their pensions would keep pace with the better of the rise in prices or earnings, there was a degree of security.

## NFU wants reduced subsidies on EEC pigs

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

Sir Henry Plumb, president of the National Farmers Union, called yesterday for a cut in EEC subsidies on imports of processed pig to Britain. He said that would reduce the price of piglets and improve the position of the pig-breeding industry, which was now covered by a domestic subsidy that the Community had handed.

He was supported by Sir John Lock, director of the Bacon and Meat Manufacturers' Association, who said: "We are very concerned about the loss of confidence, which will cause a considerable loss of export orders, if the Government's policy of pig subsidies is not maintained."

What we want to get across is that we have a problem in this country which is worse than in the rest of the EEC," Sir Henry called for a calculation of monetary compensatory amounts, or subsidies on intra-Community trade, from the cost of piglets.

That would oblige the Government to change its policy of holding down prices down through the "green pound", the device which with EEC farm prices are expressed in sterling.

He refused to let his head be put in a noose, saying that the Government was not to be taken in by the fact that the pig industry was not a disaster area, as it was in other EEC countries and by Mr Sillkin's failure to devolve the green pound.

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One of the farmers, Mr John Weston, presented a pair of piglets to the minister and said: "When things are better, I will shake hands with you."

More than a hundred farmers had been waiting for several hours on the country road leading to Mr James Clayton's pigery near Roydon, Bedfordshire. They say the pig industry is in a danger because of unfair subsidised competition from other EEC countries.

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## Lib-Lab pact may last until general election

By George Clark  
Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister and Mr Foot, Leader of the House and the Government's business manager, said yesterday that they were hopeful of continuing the Liberal-Labour partnership in the next session of Parliament, and indeed, until they decided that the time is right for a general election.

But Mr Callaghan told the Labour Party's national executive that the result of the pact was a bitter internal dispute about direct decisions to the European Parliament, conducted by some Labour MPs with financial industry, the party would clearly want to see the pact continue.

Without some firm decision by the Cabinet to back up Mr Callaghan's pledge to the heads of government to use his best endeavours to get direct elections by the target date of May-June next year the pact with the Liberals could founder.

Mr Eric Heffer, a former minister and a leading advocate of a change of attitude to Europe, had opened the debate, pressing his case for greater consultation with Labour Party members over the policy changes that may be contemplated to retain the votes of the 13 Liberal MPs.

He refused to let his head be put in a noose, saying that the Government was not to be taken in by the fact that the pig industry was not a disaster area, as it was in other EEC countries and by Mr Sillkin's failure to devolve the green pound.

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HOME NEWS



Thatcher at yesterday's Conservative Women's annual conference: Little flamboyance, great expectations.

## Mrs Thatcher pledges more spending on police

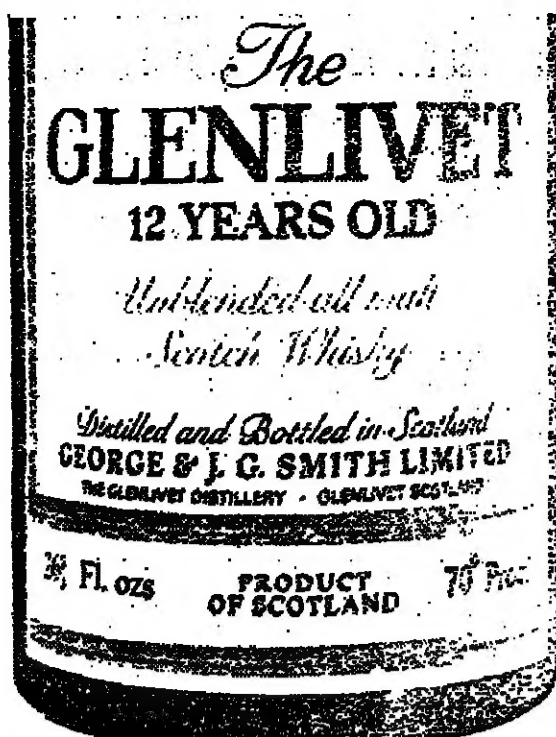
Conservative Women's annual conference, Mrs Thatcher yesterday made a triumphal return to the Conservative Women's annual conference, which she led off with a black and white photograph of her husband, the Prime Minister, and a black and white photograph of her husband, the Prime Minister, and a black and white photograph of her husband, the Prime Minister.

## Rally of nationalists taut with tensions

From Ronald Faux Dundee  
The Scottish National Party three-day conference opening in Dundee today will be the largest and most widely observed of the spring series of Scottish political gatherings.

## Statement on devolution must wait until Whitsun

By David Leigh Political Staff  
The Government has failed to produce a markable new devolution package in time for the Whitsun recess, and Mr. Foot, Leader of the House, will be unable to make a statement today.



## 'The' Glenlivet.

One little word makes our whisky unique in all the world.

You may see other malt whiskies with 'Glenlivet' in their name. However, since 1850 only one has had the right to call itself 'The' Glenlivet.

## Scheme to train teachers in maths and sciences

Launching the new scheme at a press conference yesterday, Mr. Oakes, Minister of State for higher education, said the special programme, which was first announced by the Chancellor in his Budget speech in March, might be particularly suitable for redundant executives in industry and commerce.

## Youth on show for the Queen

From Penny Symon Edinburgh  
The harrier side of being a young person today, as well as the opportunities for fun and games, was illustrated in an exhibition visited by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh yesterday.

## Tinister considers what to do about defiant Tameside

Our Education correspondent  
Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, is considering what to do about the refusal of Tameside education authority to accept the Government's decision to transfer the authority to the Greater Manchester Education Authority.

## Casualty ward had no doctor

Road accident victims and other patients at Sandwell, West Midlands, had no access to a hospital in Wolverhampton, Dudley and Walsall yesterday when the casualty department at West Bromwich District Hospital closed for seven hours for lack of a doctor.

## Late entry forms bar 54 nurses from final exams

By a Staff Reporter  
The intrusiveness of an examination board is threatened by a group of nursery nurses in Harfordshire. Because entry forms were sent in late by their college, the 54 students are being denied the chance to sit their final examinations next month.

## Ship repairers monstrate QE2 docks

Our Correspondent Hampton  
Queen Elizabeth 2 arrived at Hampton yesterday to the sea of two thousand repair workers who cheered past her berth, jeerdockers unloading luggage, cargo.

# "Exporting shoals of small-value consignments, we find ECGD world wide cover is vital"

"You can't sell overseas from an armchair, and we have people constantly travelling all over the world seeking orders in highly competitive markets. As a result, we send a large number of under-£10,000 consignments to well over 5,000 customers."

"In our enthusiasm for expansion, we still need to ensure that we are dealing with financially-sound buyers. And this is where ECGD comes in. In many cases we can go ahead and be covered by ECGD on our own credit information—but for bigger orders with new buyers ECGD's vetting is a must."

Mr. D. J. Allday is Managing Director of A. E. Auto Parts Ltd., Bradford. Currently, the company is marketing overseas well over £20 million worth of automotive parts annually—two-thirds of its turnover. ECGD insures from contract or shipment dates. Cover is offered for contracts in sterling or other approved currencies for:

- Continuous, worldwide business ranging from raw or processed materials and consumer goods to mass-produced engineering equipment.
- Sales through UK confirming houses, and by UK merchants.
- Sales to or by overseas subsidiaries of UK firms.
- Services and construction works contracts.
- Other single large sales of capital equipment, ships and aircraft.

ECGD also offers for certain export business:

- Bank guarantees for export finance at favourable rates.
- Guarantees for loans and lines of credit to overseas borrowers.
- Guarantees for performance bonds, pre-shipment finance and project participants' insolvency.
- Cost escalation cover.

For full details call at your local ECGD office.

## ECGD

INSURANCE FOR BRITISH EXPORTERS

To make an appointment or for information contact the Information Officer, Export Credits Guarantee Department—quoting reference T M—at Glasgow, Belfast, Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham, Cambridge, Bristol, London West End, Croydon or Tottenham offices; or Joan Swales, Information Section, ECGD, Aldermanbury House, London EC2P 2EL. (Tel: 01-606 6699, Extn 258).





## HOME NEWS

## Councils may seek new law on accidents as road surfaces crumble

By Michael Bailly

Transport Correspondent  
Britain's roads and pavements are crumbling so fast that local authorities may seek a change in the law to protect them from accident claims, the usually said Institution of Municipal Engineers suggested yesterday.

Ruts and potholes are appearing in roads, pavements slabs are sinking, pedestrians are slipping, vehicles and buildings are being damaged as a result of a cut of a fifth in maintenance combined with a rise of a tenth in traffic over the past five years.

One big big undertaking had twice as many broken springs last year. Accidents rates, particularly for cycles and motor vehicles, are rising, and insurance claims have doubled in some cases over the past two years, the institution said at a London press conference.

It wants the Government to reconsider transport priorities with a view to restoring the cut in road maintenance (excluding that for motorways and trunk roads) from £490m in 1972 to £410m this year, probably by cutting public transport subsidies.

The engineers are particularly aggrieved because the cuts have fallen more heavily on local authorities' roads in towns, where four fifths of accidents happen, than on trunk roads and

motorways, which are the Department of Transport's responsibility.  
Mr Stuart Mustow, vice-president of the institution and West Midlands county surveyor, said: "It is a question of getting the priorities right."

Subsidies for rail and bus had eaten into available transport resources so that road maintenance was falling behind at a probable rate of 20 per cent a year, involving far costlier re-instatement at some time in the future.

There was clear evidence that the maintenance cuts were contributing to road casualties, Mr Mustow said, and local authorities were facing increased claims from the public, particularly from pedestrians.

"It is a strange world in which we encourage people to buy motor cycles and bicycles on the ground of fuel economy and lay them open to greater risk of death or injury from inadequately maintained roads," Mr Mustow said.

The Government should consider carefully looking again at the law governing local authority liability, the president, Mr Derrick Peake, Ealing's director of technical services, said. Until 1964 that was confined to cases where roadworks had been carried out, and if accidents continued to rise through Government-imposed maintenance cuts there might be a case for returning to that situation.

## TV coverage of silver jubilee

Sir Edmund Hillary will be seen on television from New Zealand lighting one of the Commonwealth bonfires on June 6, part of the BBC's coverage of the Queen's silver jubilee.

Extensive coverage on June 6 and 7 will be given by both the BBC and commercial television: ITV described its contribution as "the biggest and most expensive continuous outside broadcast operation".

## Burglars started fatal blaze

Two burglars who were alleged to have started a fire in which an elderly man died were jailed at Manchester Crown Court yesterday. They were said to have started the fire to destroy their fingerprints.

Dale Hamey, aged 23, of Hilary Street, was jailed for 10 years, and Kevin Alston, aged 22, of Leyland Road, both Burnley, Lancs., for eight years.

## Volunteers to inhale radioactive aerosol

By Pearce Wright

Science Editor

An experiment using volunteers to inhale dust labelled with a trace of radio active material is planned by the National Radiological Protection Board. The project is described among papers in the first report on research and development since the organization was established seven years ago.

Most of the research papers are progress reports on work designed to protect the public and workers from radiation. Hence a large number of studies concern the way in which radioactive materials such as plutonium, and similar but less well known substances in radioactive waste materials, behave in the body.

Such waste products are accumulating with the increased use of nuclear energy and the development of atomic power stations needing so-called "high burn-up" nuclear fuels. The question arises of how to remove those materials if an accident should cause a cloud of radioactive substances to escape across the country-side.

An aerosol that simulates such an event has been prepared from a naturally occurring clay called montmorillonite labelled with manganese-54 and yttrium-88. Aerosol mixtures are made with very fine clay particles measuring one micron and five microns (millionths of a metre). Measurements will be made over the year to discover how long it takes the substance to be cleared from the lungs. On that information, estimates can be made of the dose of radiation that would be received by individuals should an accident occur.

The size of inhaled particles is recognized as one of two key factors in assessing the risks of radioactive contamination. The other is the chemical property of the material.

## More cooperation with parents urged in education report

By Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent

Parents and pupils would have a right to information on a child's progress, performance and conduct at school under a plan for the reorganization and streamlining of school record systems. That is put forward by the Government in the draft of its forthcoming Green Paper on schools in England and Wales.

A circular is to be sent out to local education authorities asking them to examine and report on their existing practices on keeping records of pupils' progress. The review, the draft document says, would cover the records themselves, arrangements for parents to see records, and what value such records should have.

Clear and reliable records of progress are necessary if individual help and counselling are to be provided, the document says. The keeping and transmission of records should be systematic and understandable. It should be subject to clearly understood controls on what was and what was not kept, and should pay full regard not only to the needs of teachers

and pupils but also of parents. The "great debate" on education had shown that parents wanted more information about schools so that they might better understand their children's development. Much of that wish could be met by giving parents greater access to schools, and at times convenient to the parents.

More frequent meetings to discuss a child's progress would also assist, as would more comprehensive, and more comprehensible, school reports. Reports at present varied greatly in the amount of information made available to parents. "Parents and children have a right to know how well each pupil is doing in each of his subjects, to have information on his or her class conduct, attendance and interest in the work," the document says.

The Government also wanted to see an improvement in the quantity of information about schools particularly secondary schools, given to parents by local authorities. Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, would issue a circular to local authorities

later this year describing the kind of information about secondary schools that she felt should normally be given to parents. It would include details of size, admission arrangements, range of courses available, which public examinations were taken, pastoral care arrangements and other similar matters.

The Government rejects, however, the use of national examination or standardized test results to produce "league tables" of the performance of schools. Used in isolation, such tables could be seriously misleading, the document says.

Nevertheless, the growing recognition that schools should account to society had led the Government to the conclusion that standards of performance should be regularly monitored. The Assessment Performance Unit was to embark on a programme of national assessment on a sample basis in 1978, starting with mathematics, probably with 11-year-olds and 15-year-olds, and then moving on to English and science. Traditionally, information

about pupils leaving school for employment or further education had been "passed" through public examinations. But there were limitations to the usefulness of such information. Examination results did not provide a comprehensive picture of the personal qualities of a school-leaver, and many pupils (a fifth) left school without achieving any graded result.

The Government was therefore considering commissioning a national study on the possibilities of a leaving certificate for all pupils. Such a certificate would be of interest to employers and others, and might also provide each leaver with something to show for his years at school.

Several practical difficulties had to be examined, however. It was not clear what value could be expected for such certificates. There was a risk that they might be more of a discouragement to those whose certificates were unfavourable than a stimulus to the rest. The production of honest and frank reports could lead to greater controversy between parents and teachers.

The Government was also interested in the proposal for "group certificates" for examinations. The Department of Education and Science would start talks with Schools Councils and bodies about the possibility of sending up an exploratory note on that issue. But no state decisions were taken on proposed changes to 15-plus or 18-plus examinations, or on the introduction of a new examination in 17 plus.

The Government rejects suggestions that children's attainment should be related to rigid and uniform standards of literacy and numeracy, but considers that the merit in consistent progress of assessment being aimed at all local education authorities.

The Green Paper on schools, which is the outcome of a "great debate" on education, is to be published in the draft from which above information has been taken. It is believed to have drawn up. It has already superseded by a revised version.

## 'Clean Air Act needed for radio spectrum'

By Our Science Editor

Legislation equivalent to the Clean Air Act should be devised to protect radio frequencies from interference, a report on the use of the radio spectrum discussed by the Institution of Electrical Engineers yesterday suggests.

The Institution is to propose to the International Radio Consultative Committee, which advises on allocation of radio frequencies, ways in which increased demands of broadcasting, satellite links, mobile radio, navigation and other apparatus can be squeezed into available bands.

Ingenious methods are suggested to allow different communications over the same channels without their interfering with each other. Nevertheless more information is ready for transmission than the radio

spectrum can conveniently accommodate. All transmitters emit wasteful energy which interferes with other equipment.

Methods for ensuring their more efficient operation is examined. Man-made interference from cities sometimes rivals thunderstorms as a cause of disruption. It can hamper paging and mobile radios.

Electric motors, fluorescent lighting, thermostats, welding equipment, cars, electric vehicles and electronic regulators also affect radio waves.

Some devices are suppressed by law, but the method of damping interference is not effective. The report asks for more rigorous developments in that field and for new regulations on sources of interference not covered.

## Precedent is relied on by civil servants

By Peter Hennessy

Sir Douglas Allen, Head of the Home Civil Service, said last night that it was far more difficult for the Government to keep its operations secret than for the private sector to avoid examination.

Addressing the Institute of Administrative Management, in the City of London, Sir Douglas said that civil servants regularly "cross-examined" civil servants about all aspects of departmental work. Aggrieved citizens could seek redress through their MPs and the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration.

"The need to justify decisions is therefore a regular feature of Civil Service life," he said. "Indeed, it has been suggested that it leads to excessive caution in spending on the ground that the civil servant who innovates or who works with as few subordinates as possible is exposing himself to more risk of being criticised than the civil servant who sticks to tried paths."

Sir Douglas said one consequence was the need to keep detailed written records. Sir Douglas agreed that the Civil Service, like all large bureaucracies, was unavoidably run on precedent. There were fears about creating new ones because of the expense it might cause to the taxpayer.

The appeal to precedent is in many respects the ultimate weapon in both attacking or defending an entrenched position. The machine is more likely to make a favourable response if it can be demonstrated that the concession sought had been conceded before," Sir Douglas said.

## Mr Shore confident of housing programmes

By John Young

Planning Reporter

The Government could be reasonably confident about the maintenance of its housing programmes from next year onwards, Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, said yesterday.

He told an annual general meeting in London of the National Federation of Housing Associations that naturally he could not guarantee that his department's expenditure would not once again be cut. "But we have, I believe, come through the worst of the appalling difficulties which faced us following the world recession and the oil crisis."

The converse of Mr Shore's optimism appears to be that no extra funds will be made available during the present financial year other than the extra short-term aid already announced for the inner cities and for the construction industry, the extra £13m which it has been stated will be at local authorities' disposal under section 105 of the Housing Act, 1974, as a result of falling interest rates, and any loans negotiated from private sources by the Housing Corporation.

At present the Government is under some pressure to provide more money for housing rehabilitation, in order to increase the supply of homes as quickly as possible and to relieve unemployment. With tens of thousands of local authority houses in both appalling and empty, and awaiting renovation, the argument goes, now is the ideal time to use out-of-work skilled labour, which may no longer be available when the economy recovers.

The National Home Improvement Council disclosed last week that it had approved the Manpower Services Commission funding of the £1 costs on specified rehability projects.

Since it is hardly likely, the Government would agree to subsidise private projects, council presumably had in a local authority and housing association schemes in house action areas, and general rehability work.

Concern about unemployment was also expressed yesterday. The Architects' Journal, which suggested that about a third of Britain's architects might be out of a job by next April, said that the situation was "desperate" and that the whole building industry was "disintegrating".

But the possibility of housing projects being funded through the job-creation programme appears to be unimpaired. The question of departmental responsibility, and with the payment of Employment's occupation with finding it for young people and training unskilled workers.

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## Green Paper expected to discuss Annan findings

By Kenneth Goring

Legislation in the next parliamentary session would thus be needed to prepare the way for whatever changes of broad policy the Government considers desirable in the 1980s.

Meanwhile, the commercial television companies have produced a revised version of ITV programmes schedules, first published some years ago, which they say takes account of the Annan committee's comments.

The companies have commissioned a detailed and updated financial study of ITV for evidence to the Home Office. The kind of evening viewing on two channels the companies have in mind is as follows:

Tuesday	
ITV 1	ITV 2
5.15 Light entertainment	5.15 Optional children's programming
5.45 News and magazine programme	6.00 Tonight at six
6.30 Crossroads	6.30 Indoors outdoors
7.00 Dave Allen and friends	6.55 News
	7.00 About Britain: Documentary programmes contributed by all companies in ITV, reflecting terrain and character of regions
7.30 Comedy	7.30 New frontiers: A series of scientific programmes pitched at a high level to catch the interest of professionals as well as the lay public
	8.00 Continuing story: Serials and serialised dramas dealing in greater depth with different social milieu (for example, Snow, Anthony Powell)
8.00 Film series	8.30 An evening in Europe: European broadcasting (drama, light entertainment and current affairs)
9.00 Drama or documentaries	10.30 News at ten (extended comment)
10.00 News at ten	11.00 Close down

## Public Secrets campaigns for more information

By Staff Reporter

A watchdog body calling itself Public Secrets has been formed to campaign for greater access to official information. It is working with the Outer Circle Policy Unit, an independent think-tank organisation set up by the Joseph Rowntree Social Service Trust.

The new body was set up on the initiative of Mr Frank Field, Director of the Child Poverty Action Group, and Mr Paul Barber, editor of New Society. Mr Field wrote the original article, based on leaked Cabinet minutes, that gave details of the policy-making process that led to the decision of the child benefit scheme.

## TUC press officers will not restrict information

By Tim Jones

Labour Reporter

The TUC will not deny information to journalists who do not belong to the affiliated National Union of Journalists. Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said yesterday that TUC press officers would continue the practice "unless and until it is challenged by the union conference."

If the NUJ does ask that press information should be given only to its members the submission will be considered by the General Council of the TUC. The controversy arose last week after a spokesman of the TUC press department had decided to deny information to Mr John Hosken, independent correspondent with BBC who left the NUJ to join rival and non-affiliated Institute of Journalists.

## £393 award for man who may be deported

From Our Correspondent

Llandudno

A German who has been recommended for deportation was awarded £393 by an industrial tribunal yesterday, after a dismissal by his employer.

Michael Krohn, aged 30, described himself as a "travel agent" and was employed by a travel agency in Llandudno, Cheshire, which completed a two-month probationary period.

At Llandudno, Magistrate Court on March 21 he was speaking a hired colour television set, called "it" and contravening the Immigration Act.

The court had been told Herr Krohn, from Dortmund, Germany, had served prison sentences and had been deported from Austria.

Yesterday Herr Krohn's tribunal said that he had not been a travel agent, but a restaurant manager. He was an acting hotel manager later wrongly dismissed by his employer. "In December I resigned because I was several times a German swine, and a German pig, by members of staff." The time of his resignation, he stated, was March 10. He lived on £7.40 a week, a security.

The hotel, which is in Llandudno, was not represented at the hearing. Mr George Rhu, the tribunal chairman, said was satisfied that there was constructive dismissal.



## HOME NEWS

## Fewer babies are now offered for adoption

Our Social Policy correspondent reports a long-term decline in the number of babies available for adoption, accelerated towards the end of last year, according to figures published yesterday by the Office of Population, Censuses and Surveys.

The trend is reflected in a line of more than a fifth in the number of adoption orders given in the first four months of this year. The January-April total in England and Wales was 561, compared with 5676 over the same period last year.

The figures conform with the trend of the National Adoption Register, which also shows a sharp reduction in the number of babies offered for adoption in the latter part of last year.

An important reason for the decline is the increasing reluctance of all parents, whether married or single, to give up their babies, but also a big factor: but the abortion has had relatively little impact on the adoption figures.

A representative of the agency said that a growing proportion of children coming for adoption, perhaps in a third, were of non-white origin. That trend might act as an increased willingness among Asian and West Indian parents to consider adoption.

## Escort for prisoners 'still inadequate'

Dangerous prisoners are still travelling in unsuitable vehicles with inadequate escorts, the annual conference of the Prison Officers Association was told yesterday, despite recommendations in a report on one prisoner's escape that led to four deaths. Officers attributed the failure to implement the report's recommendations fully to lack of money.

Deep concern was expressed about the continuing threat to the safety of prison staff and public from rapists and murderers being moved under escort in taxis. "We are asked to do things without the tools with which to do them," Mr. Clive Morris, of Aylesbury, said.

He was commenting on the report of Mr. Gordon Fowler, chief inspector of the Prison Service, on the escape of William Thomas Hughes, who murdered four members of a family in Derbyshire after attacking two prison officers, who were securing him in a hired car from Leicester prison to court at Chesterfield, where he was to face charges of rape and "gross indecency" and "gross indecency" charges. Hughes was shot dead by police.

Mr. Morris said: "We are being asked to cram three people in the back of a taxi. Unless it is a large car, it is not practical. It might be impossible to deal with a struggle if the car got out of control," he added. The service should have its own vehicles with prison officers looking after escorts in total.

Mr. Terence Jarman, of Bedford, contrasted the security vehicles carrying money with the "cheapest, contract vehicles" in which murderers and rapists were carried.

Hughes had been travelling with one hand free, Mr. Robert Patterson, of Leicester, said. He would like to see prisoners handcuffed not to staff but with their wrists together. If Hughes's wrists had been handcuffed together he would not have escaped from the car.

Referring to the dangers of the system of contract hire, he said how a firm of staff would get another taxi to turn up with no means of identification and no clearance by security.

Miss Patricia Scriven, of Moor Court women's open training prison, Suffolk, said women officers were not allowed to use handcuffs.

There was an old misconception that women were less violent, less dangerous or less devoted than men. The appalling rate of assaults on officers showed that, on the contrary, women were extremely vicious. Because of prison overcrowding and the rebuilding of H.M. prisons, women were being moved in parties of four, seven and 15 to one woman escort.

Mr. Harry Bowen, of Bristol, said his was probably the last case of a woman in Europe. He told the conference that 300 prisoners a day were being moved under escort.

## From two Victorian cottages to Georgian mansion St Giles' home for dictionaries

By Philip Howard

The misleading appearance of a cottage industry has amazed and amused visiting scholars from other languages, and supplied journalists with the introductions for their articles for 20 years. But after two decades of industry and expansion the dictionaries have grown too big for their cottages.

In addition to the Supplement, patriarch of the tribe, eight other English dictionaries are being prepared, and three quite new ones are about to be started. Bilingual dictionaries in English and Swedish, colloquial Egyptian Arabic, Russian, Japanese, and German have recently been brought into the Walton Crescent word factory.

The reference library now consists of more than eight thousand books and two million quotations and citations filed in steel cabinets in the basement. The cottages are crammed to bursting.

But there are still great benefits in housing all the dictionaries under one roof: the majestic tool of the lexicographer is immediately available to all the lexicographers, and ideas and anguishing problems about lemmata can be cross-fertilized in informal discussion. Lexicographical decisions tend to be arrived at not by committee, as outsiders imagine, but by sensible people deciding individually.

Accordingly, in September, the dictionaries are going to move house, scrip and scrippage, into a handsome Georgian mansion in St Giles.

Our lexicographers will no longer need to feel embarrassment at entertaining visiting colleagues in rooms the size of crowded cupboards.

## Bad conduct discharge for fiery cross airman

Airman First Class Henry Hooper, aged 19, was discharged from the United States Air Force with a bad conduct discharge yesterday for his part in setting up a fiery cross, a symbol of the Ku Klux Klan, on his base at Lakenheath, Suffolk.

He was also reduced to the lowest rank in the service.

He is one of six air force policemen at the Nato fighter-bomber base who face court martial charges relating to the burning of a 12ft by 7ft cross at midnight on the base football field in February.

Airman Hooper, from New Jersey, was the first to be tried before a jury of senior officers. He pleaded not guilty to violating an air force regulation banning dissident demonstrations and to conspiring to violate the regulations.

A senior officer at the base said yesterday: "This is the worst punishment an airman can be given. The bad conduct discharge will remain on his record in America throughout his life, and will always affect his employment chances as a civilian. Most airmen would prefer a full sentence, which would wipe the record clean."

It was submitted on behalf of Airman Hooper that he had been drinking and that the cross-burning was a prank.

More Home News, pages 22, 31.

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## Lailsham warning of limit to effect of rights' Bill

Marcel Berlins

It would hardly be worth the trouble of having a British Bill of Rights except as part of a legal overhauling of the country's Constitutional arrangements, Lord Hailsham of St. Rylehouse said in London tonight.

He was delivering the annual Richard O'Sullivan memorial lecture in which he berated on some of the issues raised in his recent nobility lecture. Explaining lukewarm support for a British Bill, Lord Hailsham said: "A Bill of Rights is no use, it will not wash with us. It will not make the glow of pressure for local assemblies in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. It will offer protection against our present system of voting if protection is required."

It will offer only a limited guard against the abuse of Parliament's unlimited power of legislation by a temporary act of jacks in office. It will do nothing to supply the want of an acceptable and effective and chamber. It may, do or nothing to prevent session by large corporations or unions.

By itself, therefore, it is a marginally worth the trouble and the labour. As a however, of a radical overhauling of our constitutional arrangements, a Bill of Rights reaching the European Convention on Human Rights is a decent but desirable addition to the arsenal of liberty against the vulgar or bureaucratic intrusion and oppression."

If there were to be a Bill of Rights for the United Kingdom, Lord Hailsham said, he was in favour of incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights rather than wing up a custom-built Bill.

There can be little to be said for two Bills of Rights, one for the House of Commons and one for the House of Lords, each covering in practice at almost every point: the one constituting an obligation in international law and enforceable in the courts, the other forming part of our domestic law and enforceable in the House of Lords, or in Court of Session (Scotland).

Lord Hailsham rejected the

argument that having a Bill of Rights would result in politicalisation of the judiciary. "British judges do try political cases now, and cannot, as of now, avoid the controversy which is inevitably involved in giving judgment on matters which are politically sensitive or have political consequences."

Cases such as the Laker Skytrain, Tameside, and the Post Office boycott all involved the validity or otherwise of decisions of government ministers. Charges of bias made against the judiciary by the "school of Marxist teachers of law" were false.

It was true that judges must of necessity be children of their time, inheriting many of the moral standards and opinions of the age, and reflecting the educational and social system of 20 or 30 years earlier. But the safeguards against the possibility of subjectivism were extremely strong, stronger in England than in any other country. Those safeguards included the binding character of precedent, the overriding nature of statute, and the hierarchy of courts of appeal.

He saw no possibility, greater than now existed, of the politicalisation of the bench, nor of political appointments to it. The fear expressed of a political bench are more indicative of things that go bump in the night than the actual realities," he said.

Our Political Correspondent writes: A House of Lords select committee, appointed to consider whether a Bill of Rights is desirable, and if it is, what form it should take, appealed last night for help from the public.

It asked for the views of individuals or organisations on the subject and, in particular, on three points. They are: in what respects the United Kingdom now is thought to be defective in the protection of human rights; in which respect a Bill of Rights would be better than a piecemeal reform of the law; and "what steps might be taken to protect a Bill of Rights, if enacted, from the encroachments of future Parliaments?"

People are asked to submit their views to the Clerk of the committee, at the House of Lords. They may be invited later to give evidence.

## Better lessons for slow learners urged by teacher

Tim Devlin

A new call for slow learners schools is called for by Mr. David Hough, a teacher and educational writer, in a book published today.

He asks schools to be concerned about "laming" children, and says: "If a boy is entirely geared to the idea of academic success along a narrow front, so that the pupils who seem to mature are those who can produce useful exercise books, then cannot be surprising if the rest of the pupils become alienated and throw in the towel."

Schools that say they have more than a fifth of their pupils in need of remedial attention should look again at their curricula, he says.

A survey by the Department of Education and Science showed that one school in seven had the proportion of children needing special education between 20 and 60 per cent.

Mr. Hough comments: "Am I in finding this rather strange? What happens in the school with 60 per cent special? Does it have over half its children in a remedial programme while the minority follow a normal programme?"

He calls for a concerted effort to improve the "rather cerebral and bookish" character of the work in schools, teaching slow learners by Mr. Hough (Maurice Temple, 11, 37 St. Russell St, London, W.C.1. Price: £5.50 hardback and paperback).

## Mrs Williams seeks ideas on punishment

By a Staff Reporter

A wide range of interested organisations are being asked to submit views on the use of corporal punishment in schools.

Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, is considering a proposed approach to the issue, which, according to the Department of Education, appears to be more difficult to resolve in Britain than elsewhere.

## Journalists may drop strike plan

More than a hundred journalists on a Darlington newspaper group, protesting at the employment of other Darlington and Stockton Times of Mrs Josephine Smith, a sub-editor who refused to join the National Union of Journalists, may abandon their call for a strike.

Their strike committee is to urge them today to wait for the outcome of talks with the management.

## Borrowing limit for new towns

The borrowing limit for new towns is increased by £500m in the New Towns Bill published yesterday.

The total debts for new town development are likely to reach the present limit of £2,250m, one year ago, by this autumn, the Department of the Environment says.

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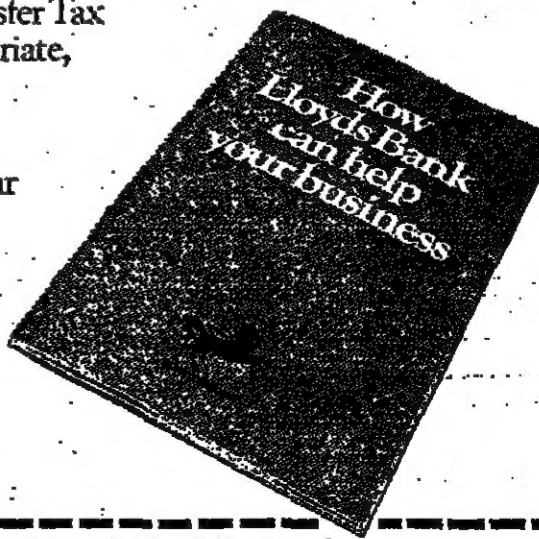
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PARLIAMENT, May 26, 1977

## Union conference decision on conduct of sponsored MPs sent to Committee of Privileges

House of Commons

Following a ruling by the Speaker (Mr George Thomas) that it was a proper occasion for allowing a motion relating to it to have precedence over the orders of the day, Mr Michael Foot, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House (Ebbw Vale, Lab), moved that the matter of privilege raised yesterday by Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lynton, C) should be referred to the Committee of Privileges.

Mr Adley had complained that the parliamentary independence of six Labour MPs was endangered because the National Union of Public Employees had threatened to withdraw their sponsorship unless they agreed to stop supporting public spending cuts.

Mr Foot said the committee had been considering the whole question of privilege and was preparing a report for the House which would alter and as he would believe, greatly improve the procedures for dealing with these matters.

He said sooner they could get those changes into operation the better it would be for the House and the House would agree with everything he had said. In those circumstances, he hoped the House would proceed on the basis which Mr Foot had outlined.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) said that invariably when these matters arose they dealt with the House and the House would agree with everything he had said. In those circumstances, he hoped the House would proceed on the basis which Mr Foot had outlined.

There were bound to be instances of firms who might be dissatisfied with the way in which the House was dealing with these matters, but he was sure that the House would deal with them in a proper and impartial manner.

Trade unions by and large (he went on) pay a substantial amount of money not to the MP concerned but to the constituency party. As Speaker, he would assume that in nearly all circumstances the money that is paid to the MP actually goes into the pocket of the MP.

There are bound to be occasions when the firms are so dissatisfied with the performance of the MP, that they decide to withdraw their sponsorship.

Mr Foot said that the House would deal with these matters in a proper and impartial manner. He said that the House would deal with these matters in a proper and impartial manner.

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as seemingly in the case with trade unions on occasion with their MPs, that they decide, secretly and not openly, to stop the sponsorship.

In those situations MPs could not raise the matter with the Speaker. They were not to know that suddenly a firm—say, for instance, Holiday Inns—had decided that the MP concerned was not fulfilling the object for which he was paid, to assist Holiday Inns as an MP.

Mr James Prior (Lowestoft, C) was being paid as a consultant for Trust Houses Forte Ltd, who had been engaged in trying to prevent their employees from becoming trade unionists.

Let us suppose (he continued) that Trust Houses Forte directors—say Lord Thorneycroft, Mr St John-Stevens (Chelmsford, C) and a few others—get together and say: "Let us stop this man's money because he is not pulling his weight. He is acting against the best interests of Trust Houses Forte." The money would be stopped. (Conservative protest and Labour laughter.)

The said might sound hilarious and we know for a fact that it has not happened, but there could be circumstances when a firm might decide to stop the money of an MP or perhaps one of these MPs engaged in these matters. It is time that the House should decide to drop the payment. The net result is that it is a matter of raising it to a position to raise it.

A lot of MPs are fed up to the back teeth with having to listen to the House and the House is not doing it. It is time that the House should decide to drop the payment. The net result is that it is a matter of raising it to a position to raise it.

Some of us believe (he said) that the House has decided with privilege has not been the best way of dealing with it. In the interests of the House, it is time that the House should decide to drop the payment. The net result is that it is a matter of raising it to a position to raise it.

That is what is being done by the Committee of Privileges. They will make recommendations to the House and then it would be for the House to decide whether those fresh recommendations should be put into operation.

He hoped the House on this occasion would agree they should refer this to the Committee of Privileges.

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He had been a sponsored MP for many years but recently resigned from the IGWU panel because he no longer believed the sponsorship system was a good system or relevant to the needs of the country.

If sponsored MPs had a different view from the union sponsoring them, or the private company, their duty as MPs was to speak out. Anyone who did not speak out was conducting himself in a way which was dangerous indeed.

The motion passed yesterday was one which purported to instruct MPs to act in a way not in accordance with the duties of an MP or else to lose the trade union sponsorship.

He had the greatest respect for the six MPs and welcomed the fact that they had made it clear publicly that they would accept no such instruction.

Mr John Leach (Birmingham, Hands-worth, Lab) said that would not be regarded as tolerable was that an MP should accept financial sponsorship from a firm, knowing that his union policy was being influenced by the firm.

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## Patents law in need of substantial reform

A substantial reform of the patent system was needed, Mr Clinton Davis, Under Secretary for Trade (Reading, Cen) said.

When moving the second reading of the Patents Bill, The Bill was important, timely, and desired by industry. It dealt comprehensively with the patent system.

The Bill set out the new domestic code and gave effect to Britain's obligations under international agreements. It would enable the application to be obtained through the European Patent Office by means of a single application.

Mr Davis said that the Bill was a landmark in the history of the patent system in this country. It was a landmark in the history of the patent system in this country.

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## Biggest cash rise for pensioners ever awarded

Retirement pensions are to go up by nearly 3.5 per cent in November, a rise of £2.20 for a single person and £3.50 for a married couple. Other benefits are also to be increased, Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced.

He said: In accordance with section 125 of the Social Security Act, 1975, I reviewed the present level of benefits before the start of the 1976-77 financial year, and formally determined that they needed to be increased. Increases will be paid from the week beginning November 14, which is one year after the last uprating.

Under the Act pensions and other long-term benefits must go up in line with the rise in earnings or prices, whichever is greater, and the increase in the cost of living.

Mr Ennals said that the increase in prices was 3.5 per cent, and the increase in earnings was 3.5 per cent. The increase in the cost of living was 3.5 per cent.

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well below the year-on-year rate represented by the Consumer Prices Index, which was published last week. The figures that gave rise to that rate were forecast and fully taken into account in the forecast.

When this Government came to office in February, 1974, pensions stood at £7.75 and £12.50. I have decided that from this November the single pension will go up to £10.50 and the married couple's pension to £22.50.

Mr Ennals said that the increase in prices was 3.5 per cent, and the increase in earnings was 3.5 per cent. The increase in the cost of living was 3.5 per cent.

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## WEST EUROPE

Spanish-Portuguese  
link to overcome  
effects of dictatorship

Madrid, May 24.—Spain and Portugal have decided to work together to regain the standing in Europe which they lost under dictatorships of General Franco and Dr Salazar.

The union of Spanish and Portuguese efforts to put the countries back among the "first European democracies" has been the main result of the visit by President Antonio de Oliveira Guterres to Portugal.

Author José Medeiros Ferreira, Portuguese Foreign Minister, who is accompanying the president, said in an official statement last night that Iberia had not been able to play an active role in international affairs because of "internal reasons," a clear reference to the countries' isolation under dictatorship.

"I would say for many countries this was a wonderful opportunity to keep us out in cold. I think we have now over that stage and that Iberian countries have an increasing role to play in construction of Europe, of new international order," Mr. Medeiros Ferreira said.

Minister Marcelino Oreja, the Spanish Foreign Minister, called the president's visit a "new chapter" in the friendship between the two countries.

Spain and Portugal must link together, linked by always strong bonds, towards that European direction, that Atlantic action in which Portugal has easily been pointed for many years and towards which Spain's

Socialists  
leading  
in Dutch  
election

From Sue Mawman  
The Hague, May 25.—The Socialist Party of Mr. Joop den Uyl, the Prime Minister, appears to have gained substantially in the Dutch election. With almost half the votes counted a computer prediction saw the party taking the most seats in The Netherlands—50 or more of the 150—meaning a gain of at least seven.

The gain predicted for the Christian Democrats, the main potential coalition partner, was more modest. It was expected to win one or two seats. A smaller coalition party, the Democrats, stood to increase its six seats to nine.

The most interesting aspect of the election, besides the very high turnout (more than 80 per cent) was the trend away from the minor parties. It is possible that the number of parties in the Dutch Parliament, now 16, will be halved. The voters had 22 parties to choose from but voted for the larger ones, and a more clear-cut political system will probably result.

In a number of big cities, the Socialists made significant gains and in Amsterdam and Rotterdam they took about half the votes cast.

It was expected that if the trend continued, the most likely outcome would be a continuation of the left-centre coalition, including Socialists and Christian Democrats, which has governed The Netherlands since the last election in 1972.

## Herr Stobbe wants to restore SPD prestige

## West Berlin's youngest ever Chief Burgomaster takes over

From Greta Spitzer  
Berlin, May 25.—Herr Dietrich Stobbe, who has just taken over as Chief Burgomaster of West Berlin, is, at 39, the youngest holder of the post.

A rather tall, quiet politician, he combines intellectual qualities with a strong realistic and pragmatic sense. He studied political science in Berlin and became an active member of the Social Democratic Party (SPD) in 1961. He became a member of the House of Representatives in 1967 and manager of its SPD caucus. From 1973 until this month he was a liaison senator between the Berlin Administration and the Bonn Government, shuttling between the two cities as a respected and trusted broker.

Herr Stobbe's thinking and political concepts have never been restricted to the immediate needs of a situation or problem. He has always seen them in a wider context and thought deeply about future policies. He likes to exchange views within a small circle, listens to what others have to say, and respects their opinions.



Herr Dietrich Stobbe: Strong pragmatic sense.

Although Herr Stobbe has generally achieved his aims by quiet reasoning and persuasion, he does not lack toughness. His views were followed when the new administration was formed.

Unlike his predecessor, Herr Klaus Schütz, he does not want to be chairman of the party as well as Chief Burgomaster. But he is determined to bring about reforms in the party that will enable it to recapture some of the prestige it has lost.

Being Chief Burgomaster of West Berlin is not like being head of another big city. Running the community is one part of the job, being a good judge of inter-German and foreign policies is another. Herr Stobbe still has to be tested on the first aspect. On the second, his experience in Bonn as a member of the group that coordinates German policy is a very real asset. Another asset is the rare fact in politics that he has few enemies.

Herr Stobbe is no stranger to the allied representatives here, having worked with them as a liaison senator.

East Germany so far seems to be withholding judgment and has not attacked him, although how long this will last remains to be seen. For his part, Herr Stobbe clearly sees the limits of relations with East Germany but believes that agreement can be reached on matters of mutual interest.

Poll says Communists  
would win in Italy

From Peter Nichols  
Rome, May 25.—If a general election were called today the Communists would emerge for the first time as the largest single party in Italy. This emerges from a poll which shows the governing Christian Democrats nearly a percentage point behind the Communists.

Most observers lately have seen the Communists as the main sufferers from the curious situation of a minority Christian Democrat Administration indirectly supported by Communist abstentions in Parliament.

The poll was carried out by the Demoskopie agency for the news magazine Panorama which will publish details tomorrow. By comparison with the general election last June, the Communists would gain another 1.8 per cent to win 36.2 per cent of the total while the Christian Democrats would lose 3.3 per cent to 35.4. The Socialists would remain stationary at 9.6 per cent while changes among the smaller parties would be slight.

In the choice of individual politicians, regarded as most capable of solving present problems, a Christian Democrat, Signor Benigno Zaccagnini, the party secretary, is in first place with 16.3 per cent, followed by the Communist leader, Signor Enrico Berlinguer, with 14.1 per cent. Third is the Christian Democratic Prime Minister, Signor Andreotti, with 12.1 per cent.

These three are the principal architects of the agreement between Christian Democrats, Communists and other parties which emerged from the general election. Talks are now in progress to work out a governmental programme which they could all support.

31 kidnap suspects held in  
raids by Italian police

Milan, May 25.—Thirty-one people believed to be responsible for at least five kidnappings have been arrested in the past 24 hours.

The police announcement coincided with yet another kidnapping. The victim is Signorina Stefania Rivoira, the 22-year-old daughter of a Turin industrialist. She was seized by four armed men and forced into a car outside her home.

Police here announced the arrest of 22 people belonging to two separate gangs after an investigation into the kidnappings of two industrialists. Their arrests followed the detention of four Sardinians and two Sicilians—all shepherds—in the Sienese region.

Yesterday Milan police arrested three other people and freed their kidnap victim, Signor Gianni Meroni, aged 22, who was being held in a flat. An additional 13 men are being questioned. —Agence France-Presse.

Rebel priest not to say  
public Mass in Rome

From Our Own Correspondent  
Rome, May 25.—Followers of Mr. Marcel Lefebvre, the traditionalist priest suspended a decade by the Vatican, were protesting assurances today that he will not challenge the Pope by saying Mass in public during his visit to Rome next month.

He will give a lecture, entitled "The Church after the Council", at the Palazzo della Farnesina, his hostess, has sent out several hundred invitations to the lecture.

So far the Vatican has shown no intention of taking any action against Mr. Lefebvre. The feeling is that the next move depends on how he behaves during his visit.

His attitude has been the subject of discussions with Cardinal Marty, the Archbishop of Paris, who is here to attend a meeting of the pontifical commission for the revision of canon law, of which he is a member.

Reports that Cardinal Marty is urging a firmer line by the Vatican against Mr. Lefebvre are regarded as mere speculation, though it is pointed out that similar views voiced by the cardinal have already received some publicity.

The cardinal was present at the Pope's general audience today. The Pope dealt with the importance of the church's teaching authority.

Trawler protest  
brands  
00 on ferry

Brest, France, May 25.—More than 300 passengers and about 100 crew members were trapped on the one-channel car ferry, Corouilles, near here tonight as Breton fishing boats prevented it from docking at the deep water port of Roscoff, as the ferry had arrived from Plymouth.

The fishermen were protesting at the arrest, on Monday, of a French trawler by the Royal Navy, 50 miles off the coast.

The skipper of the trawler, Corouilles, was fined £800 by a Plymouth court yesterday for using a net to fish a fish 50 miles from the British coast. —Reuters.

104 journalists  
listed as  
political victims

Paris, May 25.—At least 104 journalists were in prison or had disappeared for political reasons around the world on March 15 of this year, Amnesty International reported here today.

Several of the imprisoned journalists had been tortured and many were being held without trial or without charges filed against them, the report said.

Lockdowns which is holding 19, is the country with most journalists in jail. Amnesty declared. It is followed by Malawi, with eight, or more, and the Soviet Union, with seven each, and Argentina and South Africa, with six each. —Agence France-Presse.

Dr Kreisky defends rally  
of Sudeten Germans

Vienna, May 25.—About 6,000 Sudeten Germans, part of the group expelled from Czechoslovakia after the second World War, are converging on Vienna for a mass rally the weekend that has already filled Austria's tense relations with Prague.

The three-day celebration is being intended primarily as a cultural event to honour emigrants and descendants of German minority in Czechoslovakia, culminating in a big demonstration on Sunday.

There's nothing political in a rally, a spokesman for its organising committee said. It is first and foremost an artistic event—operas, concerts, plays and the like.

But the Czechoslovaks fear the rally will fan right-wing sentiment which the Sudeten movement was linked for the war, when the Sud-

EEC 'needs a relevant  
social policy to survive'

Our Social Services Correspondent  
If the European Community is to survive and prosper, it must develop a social policy as relevant to its citizens as that of the United States, Mr. Michael Banks, the Commission's former director-general for social affairs, says in a book published today.

He suggests, however, that the economic recession in Europe has already threatened the existing social programmes of the Community.

Inflation and unemployment have seriously dissipated the official will behind the social action programme to which the Community was committed at the Paris summit of 1972, Mr. Banks says.

The trade unions and governments of the poorer countries (Italy and Ireland, in particular) have been reluctant to agree to the social action programme out of date. They want

a fundamental restructuring of the programme with adequate resources provided to attack unemployment.

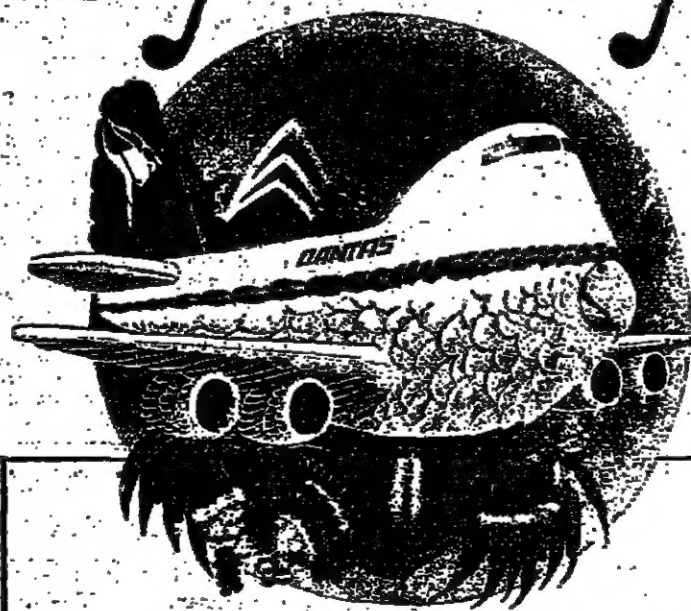
The rich countries, who constitute a permanent majority in the Council of Ministers, have made it very clear that they will not provide the kind of means which would enable such a fundamental attack to be mounted, Mr. Banks says. They would prefer the social action programme to focus on measures which would cost no more money at all.

But if the Community is to survive its present crisis, some aspects of social policy are essential and others "highly convenient". The absolutely essential items, according to Mr. Banks, are questions of employment, migration and social justice, and he advocates the setting up of a European Commission of Human Rights.

European Social Policy, Today and Tomorrow (Michael Banks, 275p, £5.50 hard cover, £2.75 flexi cover).

## GREAT NEWS FOR AUSTRALIAN BIRD FANCIERS.

# Now a Two-stop Bird to Melbourne or Sydney every day of the week.



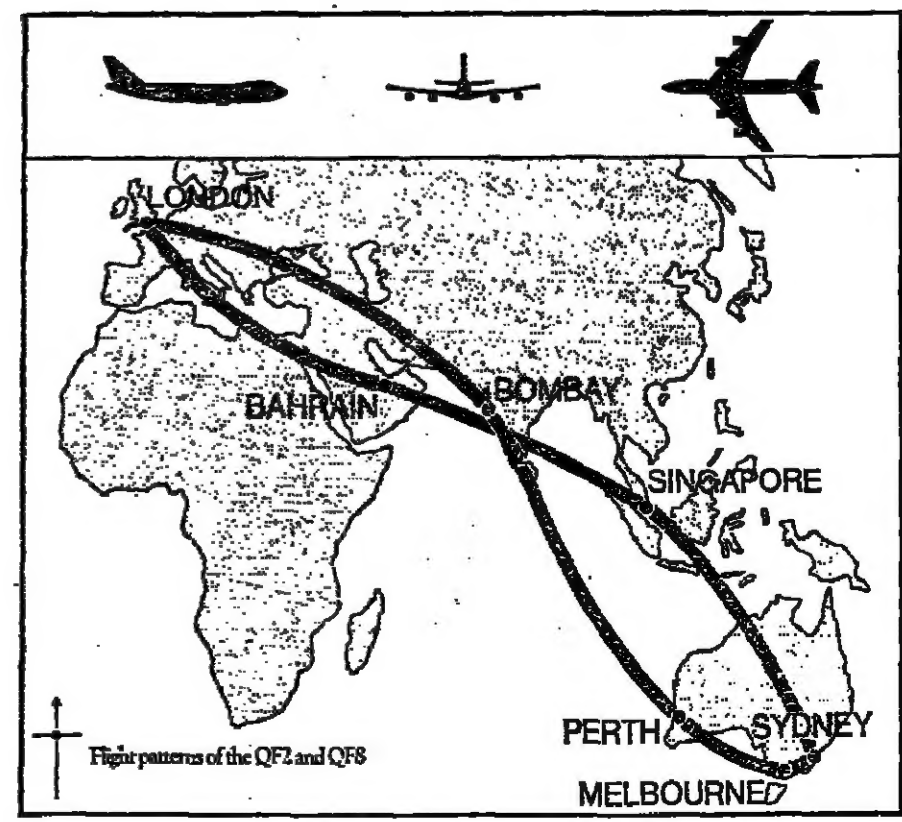
On June 16 Qantas introduce a Qantastic new schedule. With two stops to Melbourne or Sydney every single day of the week. Faster to Australia than any other airline. And all in long haul 747B's, specially designed for Qantas.

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OVERSEAS

# Israel's new leaders try to shake off their hard-line image

From Eric Marsden Jerusalem, May 25

Leaders of Likud, which emerged as Israel's largest party from the general election were surprised by the vehement reaction to Mr Menachem Begin's electoral triumph, though they had been prepared for some hostile comments in Britain because of Mr Begin's leadership of the Irgun Zvai Leumi terrorist organization in the 1940s. Some of Mr Begin's colleagues were also slightly disconcerted by the tone of the Likud victory statements about keeping the West Bank.

Mr Begin, who is a devoted reader of *The Times*, was particularly upset by this newspaper's leading article last Thursday which began with the Latin proverb, "Whom the gods wish to destroy, they first make mad".

The Likud executive is also alarmed at the impression given in some circles that Israel is being taken over by a little-known extremist party, akin to the sudden triumph of the National Front in Britain.

In an attempt to set the record straight, Mr Zalman Shoval, a banker and one of the candidates to become foreign minister, said in an interview that Likud was not a right-wing party.

"In internal affairs, Likud is a classical liberal-centre party," Mr Shoval said. "Certain wings are left of centre and that's why we won so many of the ordinary workers' votes. In British terms, it's in the left of the Tory Party, somewhere between the Tories and the Liberals."

He said Likud was not planning a return to laissez-faire liberalism, but wanted to "take the Government out of everyday decisions in business". He said misconceptions did not apply only to Likud. "For instance, we have never had a socialist government in Israel" because the Labour governments were not of the left.

Likud has earned the "right-wing" tag because of its hard line on the Middle East dispute, Mr Shoval said. He feels such labels as this and "extremist" should be avoided because the world will see a different Mr Begin when he becomes Prime Minister.

"There are two Menachem Begin's: the powerful orator playing up to his audience and the shrewd planner," Mr Shoval said. "He spent four years with Mr Begin on the Likud executive and he finds the new Israeli leader 'the most democratic party chairman I have known'."

On the morning after Likud's victory, an executive member wanted to issue a statement that it was "a victory of the Land of Israel," but, said Mr Shoval, Mr Begin vetoed this, saying: "The election is over; we must act like a government."

Mr Shoval pointed out that Likud is a grouping of parties. He said Mr Begin's Herut party is in a minority, though it is the biggest single faction. In the last Knesset, Herut filled 17 of Likud's 39 seats, with 13 held by Liberals and eight by the "La'am" faction, mostly drawn from the remnants of the state list which was founded by Mr David Ben-Gurion.

Mr Shoval is an old Ben-Gurion man and recalled that "B-G" and Mr Begin had for long been bitterly opposed. "We had to adapt to Mr Begin," he said, hinting that the West and its press should do the same.

Likud's position on the occupied territories was not clearly understood, Mr Shoval said. It was flexible on the future of Sinai and the Golan Heights, which were regarded as security areas. Sinai was a security area for Egypt as well as Israel.

This makes it possible for Likud to accept the United Nations Security Council resolution 242, which calls ambiguously for Israel to withdraw "from occupied territories". Likud's willingness to withdraw does not extend to the West Bank, which Mr Shoval says is a deep emotional issue for most Jews.

# President Sadat makes weekly attacks on man who was once the mouthpiece of Cairo regime

## Former confidante of Egyptian rulers expects to be arrested

From Robert Fisk Cairo, May 25

Those who have called Mr Muhammad Helikal in the past few days say that he expects to be arrested at any time. He does not look like a man on the point of detention as he sits in his elegant, book-lined apartment overlooking the Nile, puffing on a very large cigar and drinking imported Dutch beer from a glass tankard.

But several of those imprisoned last January for alleged involvement in the Cairo food riots came from fashionable, wealthy homes and the Egyptian security apparatus, while selective, have never bothered too much about class barriers.

Once the confidant of President Nasser and President Sadat, the respected editor of *Al-Ahram* and the source for Arab journalism and any Arab diplomats who wanted to know the minds of Egypt's rulers, Mr Helikal is now steeped in about as much official and semi-official disgrace as a man can be without finding himself before the courts.

He talks openly of a smear campaign against him and now

President Sadat is personally attacking him each week in signed articles in a Cairo magazine.

Mr Helikal, who was dismissed by President Sadat from the editorship of *Al-Ahram* in February, 1974, does not give interviews now. But he has made no secret of why he thinks he is the subject of such hostility.

"One reason," he wrote in the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Wakeel* less than a month ago, "is that I stood up to the campaign launched against Nasser... Another reason is that I refused to be silent about vital questions touching on the future of Egypt and the Arab nation."

"When it was made impossible for me to express myself in my own country, I had no choice but to find another forum in which to express myself, my commitment to Arab nationalism and my profound conviction that the Arabs share a common future making my choice an obvious one."

"Yet another reason is the circumstances under which all the media, including the press, are operating today. I would prefer not to elaborate on this; not out of fear, but



Mr Muhammad Helikal: "I refused to be silent."

It is difficult to define the precise moment when Mr Helikal's fortunes began to wane. Nasser had been attracted to the young journalist by his humour, his ability to grasp a complex political problem, and his enthusiasm for gossip, a quality which remains with him to this day.

The two men had, first seen each other in the house of General Nasser, who was later overthrown by Nasser's son, the eve of the revolution against the monarchy, and Nasser had initially wondered if the young journalist was a spy. But after he came to power, Nasser befriended Mr Helikal and when he worked his way up from political editor of *Al-Ahram* to the editorship of *Al-Ahram* in 1957, Mr Helikal became, for most of the world, the mouthpiece of Egypt.

In his 5,000-word weekly articles he expounded and sometimes criticized Nasser's philosophy in a column entitled "Frankly Speaking". He was given a freedom of expression denied to other journalists but this same freedom allowed him to present Egypt as a more liberal country than it was. On Nasser's death, Mr

Helikal's friendship with the president was unimpaired. He advised President Sadat on domestic and international affairs but Mr Sadat gradually drew away from the criticism which Mr Helikal still felt free to make. He opposed Mr Sadat's so-called "Year of Decision" on the Arab-Israeli issue. In 1971, he refused to attend a Cairo students' revolt as a communist conspiracy and objected to the dismissal of 80 journalists from their posts in 1973.

Mr Helikal had been trusted by President Sadat—he was privy to the plans for the October 1973 war against Israel—but his criticism continued and in 1974 he lost his editorship. President Sadat offered him a place in his government instead but Mr Helikal turned it down and continued to point out in foreign newspapers and magazines what he felt were the President's mistakes; the gradual breaking of relations with the Soviet Union and the over-reliance on the United States to solve the Middle East conflict.

Last year, it became known that President Sadat was growing impatient with Mr Helikal's

continued dissidence and in the year a press campaign against him commenced. He was accused, quite without being asked, of being a Communist, a sian sympathizer, a follower of the Libyan ruler, Colonel Gaddafi.

When President Sadat gave a press conference to Egyptian students in Germany last month, Cairo newspapers reported him as asking the "traitor" Mr Helikal not to be in prison. It was this conference, according to Helikal, that marked the beginning of the sum against him. He began by attributing President Sadat's remarks allegedly made during a meeting he held with Egyptian students in Bonn. According to this version, he described to the students as an "Arab agent" I honestly believe that President Sadat could have thought such a thing alone say it. Because he, n than anyone else, knows all facts regarding both the N years and my own."

The newspaper says against Mr Helikal are going on in desultory to usually misquoting

# Alarm over Middle East peace plan

From Our Own Correspondent Jerusalem, May 25

Renewed alarm among Israelis was caused today by reports that the United States State Department has drawn up a Middle East peace plan and that a White House spokesman had spoken of the need for a Palestinian "homeland" with secure and recognized borders.

The latter statement was made by Mr Jody Powell during the visit of Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia. It is believed to be the first time a United States official has referred to President Carter's concept of a Palestine homeland in terms of secure borders, which implies an independent state.

The evening newspaper

*Maariv*, which supports Likud, Israel's largest party, said that this indicated that the Carter administration was making giant steps forward to a territorial solution to the Palestinian issue that would involve the gravest dangers to the state of Israel.

Earlier, a report in the newspaper *Haaretz* on a United States peace plan envisaging almost total Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories in two phases, drew negative comment from Government spokesmen.

A Foreign Ministry source said that Israeli diplomats in the United States had been assured that Washington had no peace plan and would not attempt to impose a settlement. According to the peace plan prepared

by the United States State Department proposed an Israeli withdrawal in two phases resulting in a virtual return to the 1967 borders.

Washington now seemed to separate the Gaza problem from that of the West Bank. This was because the Americans had become convinced that Egypt was no longer interested in getting Gaza back.

The Americans also believed, according to *Haaretz*, that the Gaza Strip was not essential to the Palestinians as part of their "entity". There was a tendency to accept the Israeli demand that part of the Gaza Strip should remain in Israeli hands as a security cushion.

Security arrangements in all three sectors of the occupied areas would provide for early warning stations.

# Prince Fahd denies oil embargo threat

From Fred Emery Washington, May 25

Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia, who is in Washington today, said that "oil will not be used as a weapon". The Saudi Deputy Prime Minister made the remark in Arabic as he left the White House after completing talks with President Carter.

The President told reporters that the Crown Prince had assured him that there would not be another embargo on oil exports to the United States in the hope of compelling the Americans to force Israel into peace.

The Prince had also assured him that Middle East reports about the threat of such an embargo "were completely false".

# Dr Owen outlines the choice for S Africa

South Africa must choose soon between democratic transformation and violent disintegration, Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, said in London today.

Addressing a United Nations Association dinner, Dr Owen said: "The blunt truth is that in South Africa, no less than in Namibia and Rhodesia, the ultimate choice lies between, on the one hand, a peaceful democratic transformation and, on the other, a violent disintegration into racial violence, untold human suffering and economic destruction. That choice must be made very soon."

He conceded that the time scale for change in South Africa would be very different from that in Rhodesia and Namibia, but left no doubt where he felt Britain's interests lay.

"South Africa will take time to evolve, but change there must be, and so do change or back off from our condemnation of apartheid will undermine our credibility with black Africa, and weaken our ability to press for peaceful and democratic transitions to independence for Namibia and Zimbabwe."

Dr Owen reiterated his belief, shared with President Carter, that human rights are a legitimate subject of international concern. In Africa, as elsewhere, Britain would apply the same standards in speaking out against violations, "whether we are discussing Uganda, Ethiopia or South Africa."

Systems of apartheid and white minority rule were deeply offensive to everyone who valued basic human rights, said. It should come as no surprise that the frustrations and sense of humiliation they created should arouse the anger and passions of the United Nations, and the more and more people to violence and armed struggle.

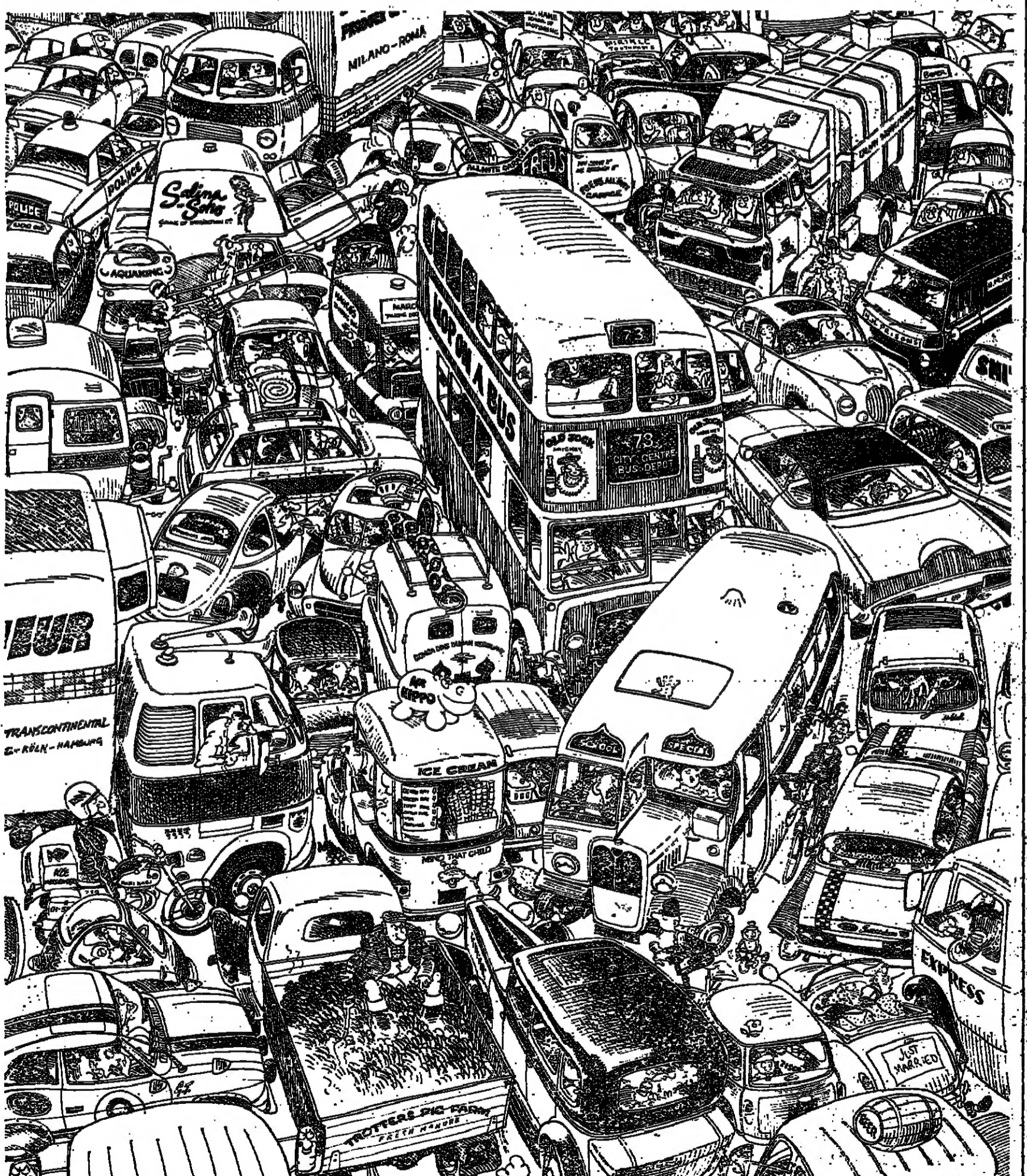
Dr Owen made it clear in Britain's case moral principles and economic imperatives coincided. Britain's trade with black Africa was worth \$2,500m last year, he pointed out.

Nigeria has now supplanted South Africa as our single largest trading partner as it continues to be the fast growing British export market anywhere in the world. F Britain, as a great tradition, black Africa is an area of rapidly growing importance.

Concerning the present consultations on Rhodesia, which moved yesterday to Salisbury, Dr Owen said the aim was "to agree to an independence constitution and a procedure for democratic elections, which would produce an independent Zimbabwe in 1978."

"Such a constitution must guarantee majority rule as a safeguard of the fundamental human rights of all the people of Rhodesia. Unmajority rule, realism dictates that we cannot expect guerrilla war to cease... nevertheless I strongly urge that there should be no secret force."

"It would be folly to sanction until progress majority rule is, and can be seen by all to be irreversible, but when this has occurred violence too must stop."



# Ever thought of traffic without the lights?

Each day in Britain, 17,000,000 vehicles travel to and from over thousands of intersections on 206,600 miles of road. Crucial to their flow are 44,000 traffic lights.

These lights are powered by electricity. So are motorway signs, street and motorway lighting, level crossings, pedestrian crossings and city centre traffic computers.

Without traffic control, most of the goods vital to our economy would fail to reach their destination on time. Electricity helps you in more ways than you think.

THINKELECTRIC  
The Electricity Council, England and Wales.

# Husain warning that one act could start war

Amman, May 25—After the biggest military parade in Jordan since King Husain said today there was a "grave threat of accidental war" in the Middle East.

"The slightest border accident or provocation could send the region up in flames anew," he said in a radio address.

"Israel's new leaders may be fishing for a new war," King Husain said. "They might be tempted to dictate a new status quo and create conditions favourable to their hard-line policies." But he said he had confidence that President Carter's peace-making efforts—AP.

# Britons in Uganda to be lectured

Nairobi, May 25—President Amin of Uganda has said he will definitely attend next month's Commonwealth conference in London whether they like it or not, according to Uganda radio.

The radio, monitored here, said the President told a meeting of Government officials in Kampala last night that Britain, as the host country, would be responsible for his security at the conference.

"I will be accompanied by some members of the British reserve forces as my bodyguards. I want to see how strong the British are and I want them to see the Ugandan man from the continent of Africa," the radio quoted President Amin as saying.

All Ugandan citizens of British origin were today instructed to assemble at the International Conference Centre in Kampala on Friday for a lecture connected with President Amin's planned trip to London, according to the radio.

The chief of protocol on "presidential protocol and security".

Meanwhile, Uganda has decided to close down its High Commission in London, the radio said. President Amin had decided to "remove the Ugandan High Commissioner from Ghana to Nigeria, which has good relations with Uganda," the radio said. A Reuters and Agency France-Press.

# Mr Young's optimism or negotiations

Mr Andrew Young, American representative at United Nations, flew to London yesterday for discussions with Dr David Owen, Foreign Secretary, after a tour of southern Africa.

Speaking on his arrival at Heathrow airport, Mr Young said that he thought he had persuaded "black" African leaders that there was another way to solve the problems of southern Africa.

"I don't think I dismiss them, nor did I try to give the armed struggle but I try to help them see that negotiations and consultation by the Foreign Office and the United States were certain, viable alternative that could even more productive than armed struggle," Mr Young said.

"I think it is very hard to tell the liberation leaders give up the armed struggle bearing in mind what have been through. What attempted to do was convince them that the fight at some time they have to down and decide what sort of country they want. This sort of attitude would be effective and could be instrumental in putting together a peaceful Zimbabwe (Zimbabwe)."

Of South Africa he said "much of the action by its own values has generated fear and despair."

# Dismissed general says it again

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, May 25

Major-General Singlaub today repeated to a congressional committee his belief that President Carter's planned withdrawal of American ground forces from South Korea might lead the North to go to war again. But he professed that he had not intended to take issue with fixed national policy.

President Carter, at the weekend relieved the General of his command as Chief of Staff, United States Forces Korea, for having earlier expressed his concern to The Washington Post correspondent. When the General was interviewed by the newspaper, it was already fixed national policy to withdraw the two American divisions over a period to be agreed with the Japanese as well as the South Korean Gov-

ernment, it is generally assumed that the withdrawal will be phased over five years.

The President has meanwhile continually reaffirmed his commitment to the United States-Korea defence treaty, and he is leaving American bomber aircraft stationed in the south. The administration believes that South Korea's armed forces are more than capable of deterring a communist attack on their own.

Today, General Singlaub was careful to insist that his view was personal, but he added that he was unwise to withdraw a force which was directly interposed between Seoul and the North Koreans without first obtaining some concession from the communists. He said that despite his inquiries, the Joint Chiefs of Staff—who support President Carter's policy—had never explained

the reasoning behind the withdrawal.

The general was before a subcommittee of House of Representatives armed forces committee. Congressmen are not challenging the President's right to keep the generals in line; they wanted to know why many opposed the withdrawal. General Singlaub appears to have widespread support throughout the United States Pacific Command—who probably would keep their place for ever.

General Singlaub, who earlier agreed to permit himself to be quoted by name in *The Washington Post*, in his view attributed to "blamed the commies" on "naivety of press reaction." He has not yet been in another post.









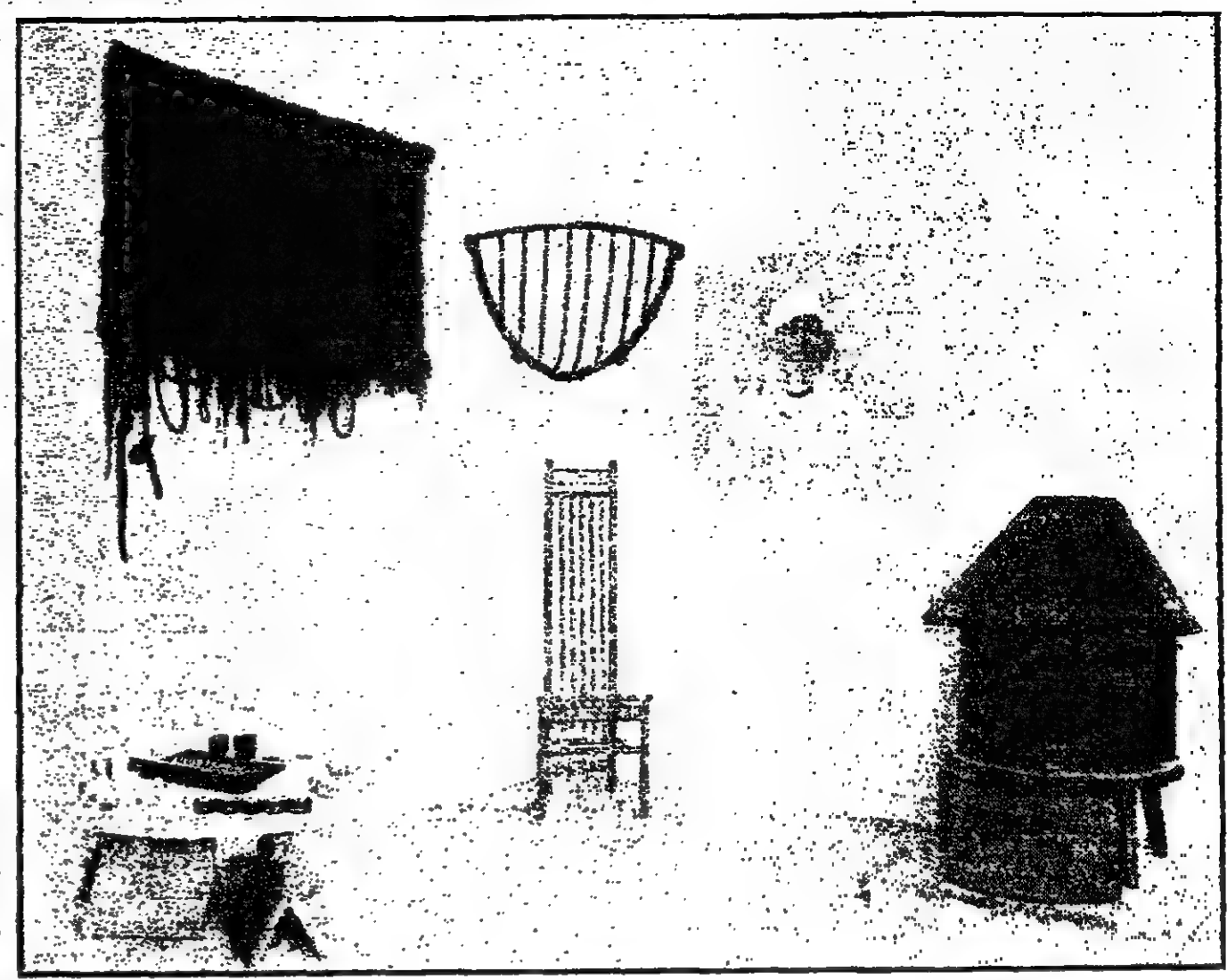




them

# Fashion

by Prudence Glynn



Above:  
Annabelinda  
dresses  
and toys by a  
group of  
designers in the  
Prescoje  
allery, Cropredey,  
Banbury, Oxon.  
tel.  
029 075 660

## Money where your heart is

One should really be grateful for pleasures supplied by one's favourite medium, in any case the written word, but there are moments when they are tempered by frustration. These James Fennell's curating society in the New Statesman of crumb-picking and piece scrapping is a proper coming late in reporting some happening, while affording a gourmet experience, dashed the cup from my lips because this was the precise way in which I had imagined I might introduce my own party and amateur reflections upon the Menmore Downside.

I thought Menmore was dreadful. Leaving aside an indifferent situation, and architectural style in which meddling with the derivative must have reached its high peak (though there is plenty of it going on in design today, alas), the worst factor must be the astonishing poor Fennell, who was capable of original thought, so perceptive this masterpiece. These, some of the comments were so dirty and so damaged. Far from Menmore being saved for the nation, I think the nation was rightly saved from Menmore, and the sooner the Doges' lovely gold lanterns go back from the gloomy Buckinghamshire ceiling to a gilded barge in Venice, the better I shall be pleased.

But what really worries me is that Menmore exemplified a lack of confidence in one's own taste and in modern talents when it was put together. "Cheaper to buy French furniture than go to Naples", said the baron (or Naples, as the case might be in this newspaper). And after all, Wedgwood are still doing a bomb with designs taken from Sir William Hamilton's collection from thereabouts, and the prices realised now in the sales, which my expert colleague Geraldine Norman records as greatly above expectation, must reflect just such a modern state. A collection of loot may be justified if you are rediscovering overlooked masters, as Medelssohn ex-

humed Bach. But all the furore about the antiques we are shipping abroad, much of it probably mediocre stuff or junk, never takes account of the other side of the story, which is, how is vacuum refilled? Having stripped Granny's clothes press, and your fingers, to the plate, and sold it for a couple of grand in the Portobello Road, where do you keep your clothes? In a nice piece of repro from Naples, perhaps? Or do you use the money to buy a design from one of those oh, so many, brilliant artist-craftsmen we have now in Britain?

For we certainly do have brilliant, original individual artist-craftsmen in every sphere of design. The problem has always been, though, where to see enough of the work of enough of them to be able to form any sort of personal opinion. There are, of course, shops such as Liberty, Heals, or Oscar Woolless, to which have now been added many small galleries, some good, some bad and some a bit of both. Taking pieces on sale or return, whether they be jewelry or hunks of furniture, is the way to support craftsmen who must sell to make the next design.

On the other hand we have managed to divorce the working artist from his public in this country to a degree as spectacular as those society affairs chronicled in the chic gossip columns. In coarser, or franker days, they knew one another and were mutually supportive. Fragonard after all, could be summoned to paint in an ugly sofa back without loss of face.

This frank exchange between designer and buyer is one of the things Ann Hartree wants to promote in her new and extremely attractive gallery in the stables of the late Richard Crossman's house at Cropredey, near Banbury, in Oxfordshire.

Everything in the gallery has been bought and paid for by Mrs Hartree, wife of an Alcan executive, mother of three children, one-time professional

musician, and now dedicated promoter of the craftist. She has put in a superb staircase in Florentine pastels by Neil Henderson, who normally makes parts for boats in a factory in Banbury.

She has lovely furniture, some by people who worked with John Makepeace before he moved westwards, and fascinating tapestries by Candace Bahouth. There is lovely glass, radiant pottery, and there are dolls and toys and romantic clothes from Annebelline of Oxford.

"After all", reasons Mrs Hartree, "the V and A has a costume section, why shouldn't I have dress which I really think transcends fashion in my gallery, too?" Do go to the Prescoje Gallery, if only to stimulate your taste buds, though you will probably come away with a purchase. Looking back on my visit, there are so many lovely things there I want. Which is more than I can say for Menmore.

Above:  
Tapestry picture  
by  
Candace Bahouth,  
a wallhanging,  
a fine chair  
loaned from  
the Victoria and  
Albert showing,  
boxes on the table  
by Desmond Ryan

New  
Stories



A COMP  
TO THE  
OPERA  
ROBIN

Ryan Duffield, group managing director of the Ravenscroft Metals Group, put his money where his heart was in inaugurating a competition for a sculptural trophy for the Year of the Year. First, he feels that the young should be encouraged, second he feels that the poor buyer is all too often the scapegoat between manufacturers and public. In fact he/she is a crucial person in the chain of consumerism. The design prize was won by a young woman in Reigate School of Art, Bridget Powell. The buyer who had up (a feat of some strength) the handsome thing was youngest entrant, Paul Walker, from Belfast.

The last lot of uniforms designed for British Airways were rejected by the staff of said airlines, much to the embarrassment, presumably, of Hardy Amies, who designed them. No such possibility has been permitted with the newest collection, described by a British Airways executive as "the most consultative uniform I've ever seen. I expected it to come out looking like a three-bumped camel."

Actually, since it was designed by the skilled team at Eacott Wedderburn of Brian Godbold (now executive head of design at Marks and Spencer) and Tim Gardner, it is extremely smart and appropriate above all.

It certainly was the result of consultation—Brida went round the world asking ground and flight ladies what they wanted, and many of their suggestions have been incorporated in the final design, quite rightly in my opinion, since the best talents can always work to a brief.

The basic colours were set—red, white and blue, would you be surprised?—but Brian's original concept of a signature print was grounded when the French took off with the same idea from Rodier. Navy and white fine pinstripe is the basic fabric for the new look.

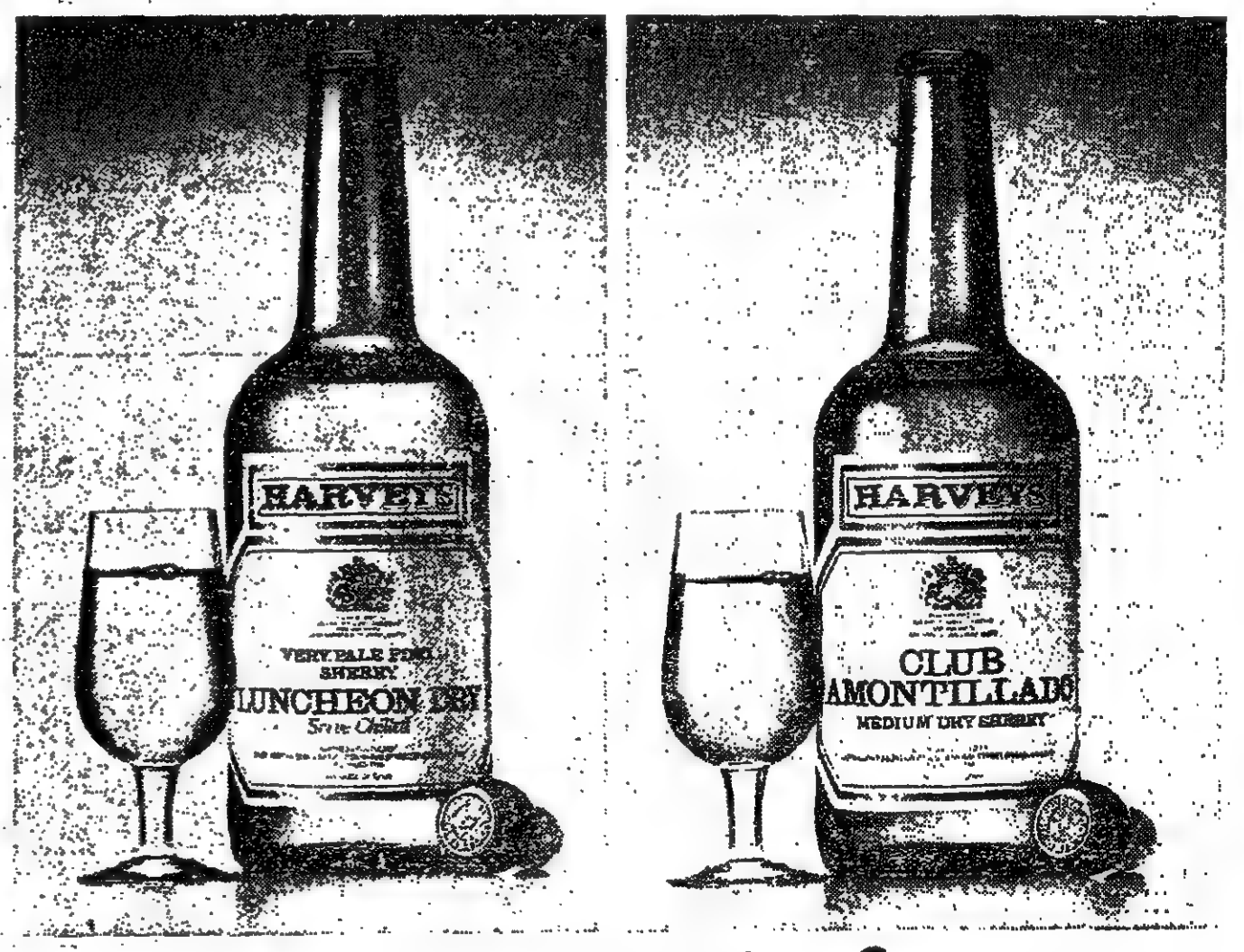
## The Lenglen legend

of the few fashion goss in Ted Tinsley's life in dressing the stars of the court is that he never actually witnessed the donning of the famous basnet, an item which became the first of a sports personality influence in mass market fashion. The Times, however, has a reader who can supply this. Miss Byng, whose stepfather, Harry Atkinson, owned the Cannes tennis club, wrote to tell me about it.

Lenglen was always sweet to me, and one occasion, when she had to change on after-hours match, I escorted her upstairs to my mother's room, where our maid was waiting to help her. She invited me to stay, and the doting teenager watched the great star actually putting on the famous bandeau. Suzanne was a truly wonderful player, in spite of the triumphs, and Maudie at the side of the court waiting to soothe and dry her tears. Mr Tinsley's snapshot of her is exactly as she was then, and the best I have ever seen.

Miss Byng recalls the classic duel between Lenglen and Helen Wills—a real sou-pous, with very bad manners, my mother always resented having to enter into the Lenglen had beautiful manners and was always charming. Lenglen just managed to win after a "very emotional match" on the Carlton courts. "Both ladies were impeccably turned out, and none of the women nowadays look a patch on them, except perhaps Margaret Court", writes Miss Byng. "I dare so disagree with the great Mr Tinsley. Tennis frocks should be knee length, plain, unfussy and, no embroidery!"

Henry Atkinson, whose charm and tact seem to be equally memorable, had his own favourite, the exquisite Madame Alvarez. "All those love affairs she used to confide everything to him, he was so understanding."



## The growth of two classic styles of sherry.

Today, as you read your newspaper, white Palomino grapes are in their early stages of growth on the gently rolling hills around Jerez de la Frontera.

They will ripen slowly throughout the summer, and be ready for harvesting in September. A crucial time, for if picked too soon the harvest would not have reached its full potential; picked too late and the grapes would have withered in the heat of the Spanish sun.

After harvesting the grapes will be pressed, then the mosto (juice) allowed to ferment freely for a while in casks within

the cool, vaulted bodegas.

Certain mostos will develop flor (yeast on the surface of the young wine), others will not. Only those that do will ultimately become finos or amontillados.

The classic fino is very light in colour and very dry to taste, with a delicate bouquet. Luncheon Dry is just such a fino, and is best served lightly chilled as it is in Jerez itself.

The classic amontillado is richer in colour and medium dry to taste, having taken on a particular nuttiness of the wood. Such is the character of Club Amontillado.

LUNCHEON DRY & CLUB AMONTILLADO  
from Harveys of Bristol



**Abstract**



allowing Liverpool to regain their lead for the game. Yet it was hard to see who would pull them back. Keegan, tracked all the

[illegible]

for Chelsea and is expected to be appointed as assistant manager. He replaced McDermid's deputy when he returned from their loan spell at American side, the San Jose Earthquakes.

Southampton have signed a full-time goalkeeper, Barnsley's Peter Carr, on a three-year contract for £25,000. Picking up the reins after Carr had been loaned out as played 160 league games and 100 cup matches for the club.

Southampton's first team next season will be managed by Southend's manager, John Docherty, who has replaced the sacked Steve Burrows, who was sacked after last season's FA Cup triumph and seen off by the club's board.

Southampton signing as another player, Carr, has been a surprise.

McDermid has denied a story that Anderlecht are to sign him for £1.5 million.

He said: "This is just more speculation about Channon. Anderlecht have not been in touch with me for a long time."

Aston Villa's chairman, Sir John Hall, Douglas Dodgson, said he was "very disappointed" that the club had not been able to sign a player.

Southampton have signed Michael Pickering, Barnsley's captain, and a 21-year-old central defender, for £25,000. Pickering, who has played 10 league games and scored twice, is expected to move straight into the first team. Barnsley's season. Southampton's manager, Lawrie McMenemy, has been re-signing the side after last season's FA Cup triumph and sees Pickering as "another piece in the jigsaw."

Mr McMenemy has denied a report that Anderlecht are to sign Michael Champion for £300,000. "I have no idea where that came from," he said. "I have no discussion about Champion. Anderlecht have not been in touch with me."

Aston Villa's chairman, Sir William Duggan, yesterday gave "heads off" warning to clubs

for Chelsea and is expected to be appointed as assistant manager. He replaced McDermid's deputy when he returned from their loan spell at American side, the San Jose Earthquakes.

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Hughes was bowled by attempting something exotic. Two or three hearty blokes Thomson were a prelude to the fastest overs of the tour.

[illegible]

brought them to 67 for five, & both Doshi and White spin the ball.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings  
F. A. Todd, c Turner, b Sproce  
H. Hassan, c Crook, b East  
C. E. B. Rice, b Turner  
C. M. J. Smalley, 1-b-w, b Bayne

[illegible]

as commanding as he can, help  
Steele to add 64 before he r  
ained a drive to extra co  
against Carrick.

[illegible]

ference are to hold a special meeting at Lord's on June 14 to discuss Kerry Packer's Australian television matches scheduled for next winter. Packer announced earlier this month that he had secured 75 of the 100 shares.

...ers to play in a Lord's Test of  
internationals, including Tony  
Gregg, who as a result was dis-  
missed as England captain.  
Black Bailey, the secretary of  
both MCC and the ICC, issued the  
following statement during the  
MCC v. Australians match at  
Lord's yesterday: "Following  
communications with the cricket  
authorities concerned, it has been agreed  
that a special meeting of founda-  
tional and full members of the  
International Cricket Conference  
will be held at Lord's on June 14.

ives from Australia, India, Pakistan, New Zealand, West Indies and the United Kingdom will present to discuss the situation resulting from a declared intention to stage an unofficial series including current Test play.

[illegible]

NOTTINGHAM: Sussex II. 291  
 plays 137 A. C. S. Bignot 67r: B  
 later 4 for 44: Nottinghamshire  
 8 for 3  
 NORWICH: Surrey II. 302 for  
 Youngs Ahmed 83. G. P. How  
 4: Kent 41 for 1  
 MINCKLY: Leicestershire II. 300  
 dec (R. Chapman 77: Warwick  
 300 for 1 (J. Whitehouse 130  
 M. M. Oakes 5).

[illegible]

BARTON: Northamptonshire II  
 Worcester II  
 OTTINGHAM: Northamptonshire I  
 Sussex II  
 ORBURY: (National) Wiltshire  
 (Bark): Surrey II & Kent II

**becomes a con**  
From Rex Bellamy  
St. Louis Correspondent  
Paris, May 25

Three of the four leading players in Britain's tennis ranks—Fred Perry, Don Budge and Dick Savitt—were in the top group team chosen to play Kostas Panoulas in Bucharest from June 10 to 12. Mark Cox is committed to the second team, which includes the 1956 Wimbledon champion, Fred St. John. The British manager, Paul Flannigan, regretfully admitted that the British team was not sufficiently "strong" and that Christopher Hemmings would not accept an invitation to play in Bucharest. Flannigan, therefore, consists of David Lloyd and John Lloyd, John Feaver and John Newcombe. The defensive bit, though he has yet to play Davis Cup match), and a newcomer, Richard Lewis.

It is the U.S. Olympic team, coached by Arthur G. S. Brailsford, which should no longer have to depend on them, particularly as the present tennis world is undergoing a radical reorganization by the Olympic committee to adapt an outdated system to modern needs. In short, the British must not let their imagination as it tried to and no longer claims such a high place in the world of tennis. In this situation endures, competing conditions are justified in building

at the time. Mottram decided that he no longer wished to play under Hutchins's captaincy, but has since adjusted that attitude. Mottram said here today that he was willing to play if Hutchins would make some sort of retraction.

On. Only two things need to be said about this trivially silly business: First, the writers who concocted it can make his reason why, in addition, there is no serious why, except on anyone else should accept such conditions. The other is that the French have fallen into the trap that ensures many of the game's administrators by finding competition in an essentially meaningless way. The French is to select the players he wants and invite them to play. If they refuse, the responsibility is theirs. If it is not, the responsibility is his. He has made a tactical error.

The third day of the French instantly became a day of re-orienting through mostly uneventful. Philby Den best Nikola Pilic (the 1972 runner-up) for the first time in 20 hours spread intensively over two days. Pilic, serving

tricks in a game between the two sides who at this early stage share the lead in the championship table. After Northamptonshire had been dismissed for 186, Boycott and Lamb put on 109 runs for the first wicket. Both batted with ease.

Wood's innings steadied Lancashire

A magnificent 95 by Barry Wood, the English opener, held Oxford University in the Parks every day. On an unpredictable pitch he hit 10 fours and 10 sixes, and until tea and the tail-enders sawing their bats with some degree of success to take the

Wood was the only batsman rarely troubled, but when he doctored out of a century he pulled a long-horn from Brantwell and was caught at mid-wicket. He batted for nearly 3½ hours and hit 13 fours.

Savage was again Oxford's best bowler with five for 71 and Brantwell took three for 49. Gurne, the captain of the Oxford bowlers,

C. S. Smith	c	Straw	b	SAVAGE	18
G. Scott	c	Macphail	b	SAVAGE	10
C. Gray	c	Wells	b	SAVAGE	25
F. J. Lee	c	Macphail	b	SAVAGE	25
R. Arrowsmith	not out				18
W. Hoag	b	Bretted			18
Extras (b 5, l 2, w 3, n 5)					20
Total					258
FALL OF WICKETS:	1	21	3	80	
3	78	4	169	5	173
				6	194

[illegible]

\_\_\_\_\_

ordington 36 3 Ff 31 5108 Fv | at U-4 and deuce in the third set. Campbell (Australia), G.S. [unclear] J. Mc Thomas, K. D. Williams.

Final outcome: [unclear]

NORRIS [unclear] Original [unclear]  
Rank: 3rd of 9 Rank: 1

هكذا من الأسماء











## a Special Report

though the London tower is at the hub of a microwave network that will eventually connect every telephone call and 40 television channels. There is a dispatch space of Parkinson's Law about the way new communications networks become filled, thus refuting predictions that increasing capacity by some new technical means would be a foolish investment. The here-coming growth of the Shuttle, described at a recent meeting of the Royal Society for Space Communications and Navigation, assembled in London last 20 years. With at least five times the capacity of modern satellites, these new stations could be carried into orbit by the reusable Space Shuttle. They can be powered by solar batteries and reported an orbit by signals at intervals along a store enough cable to cross the Atlantic in one voyage. Yet the ship is no bigger than others new at work. Enormous progress has been made in designing satellites with high capacity but with smaller cables. Developments in microelectronics which made the satellite possible have also benefited cables in leading to the design of miniature measures for boosting signals at intervals along a

The best-known example is probably the development of the satellite. When the writer Arthur Clarke suggested in 1945 that a radio relay station be placed in orbit at a height of 22,000 miles above the equator, world attention was attracted and the idea of orbiting and relaying radio signals by three satellites could be

placed to "see" the whole globe between them, many experienced scientists and engineers said it could not be done.

Spacecraft could not be launched to the height and with the precision needed by the communications satellites launched last year by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for military communications satellites. Until now, only jets that orbit

Quasire business hours the same equipment could be used to send letters across the Atlantic by facsimile transmission. And trends would seem to suggest that if anything, these predictions are fairly modest.

There seems almost no end to the expansion of communications services. One intriguing aspect of reviewing past developments

the fact that organizations like the Post Office, for the British domestic service, could be able to afford to provide administrations, both operate large cable networks, radio links and satellite communications systems. Without these transmission links, computers data banks and intercontinental television would be impossible. But they have been marching on the surface in terms of the likely social

James H. Fletcher, administrator of Nasa, says that communications satellites have more than repaid their cost. The cost of a telephone call from New York to London is 55 per cent cheaper than before the advent of the satellite, Early Bird, entered service in 1965.

The most significant element is the way that different methods of transmission have crossed the side-by-side.

The advent of the satellite was seen as marking the end of the era of the submarine cable, and new methods of transmission are replacing high-frequency radio. But an almost insatiable demand for communication is the way that different methods of transmission have crossed the side-by-side.

The change to be wrought by a combination of telecommunications and computer technology.

The revolution of the telephone dial by a push-button handset can turn the normal domestic apparatus into a miniature computer.

The revolution of the teletype machine by the teletext is already in use in industry.

—Simultaneously, The Post Office

Formerly called Intelsat I, these vehicles carried 240 voice circuits or one television channel, compared with its successors, now in use, which can relay 6,000 simultaneous telephone calls and television channels.

The generation to succeed these has already been planned. With a look into the near future, Sir Edward Renssley, deputy chairman of the Post Office and managing director of carriers have been involved. For example, the main international cable laying company, Cable and Wireless, has introduced a vessel to its fleet which could communicate with and receive every technical aid available to handle the avalanche of information.

**Pearce Wright**  
Science Editor

store enough cable to cross the Atlantic in one voyage. Yet the ship is no bigger than others now at work.

Enormous progress has been made in designing submarine links of high capacity but with smaller cables. Developments in microelectronics which made the satellite possible have also benefited cables in leading to the design of miniature repeaters for boosting voice signals at intervals along a

Since Marconi's transatlantic experiments cable and radio circuits have been in competition to some extent, the satellite really represents the most recent extension of the radio link. The interesting twist lies in

the fact that organizations like the Post Office, for the British domestic service, and Cable and Wireless, for overseas administrations, both operate large cable networks, radio links and satellite earth stations. Without these transmis-

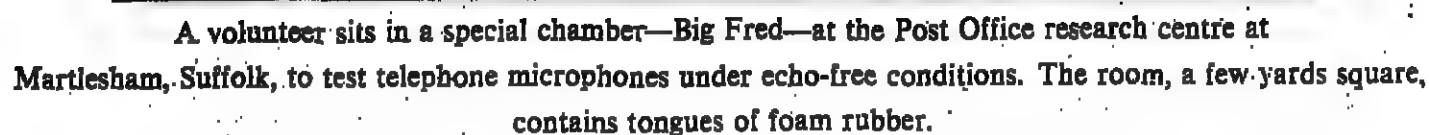
tion, links computer data banks and intercontinental television would be impossible. But they have scarcely scratched the surface in terms of the likely social change to be wrought by a combination of telecommunications and computer

The substitution of the telephone dial by a push button handset can turn the normal domestic apparatus into a miniature computer. Devices of this kind are already in use in industry.

Similarly, the Post Office, BBC and LBA have all demonstrated their versions of a teletext system for presenting a news and general information services on the

television... screen. Developments like this can only further increase the explosion in communication which will need every technical aid available to handle the

**Pearce Wright**  
*Science Editor*



Throughout the world, many hundreds of companies compete for small, specialized segments of the telecommunications markets. Only a few companies — very few — have the overall capability, knowhow and experience, not to mention large financial and technical resources, to meet the broader need for planning, designing, manufacturing and installing complete telecommunications and telecommunications-related "packages" virtually anywhere in the world. The Ericsson Group is one of those few.

**The world's biggest and most complex machine.**

As one of the world's major telecommunications manufacturing groups, Ericsson is part of the world's biggest and most complex machine: the global telephone and telecommunications network.

Linked by submarine cables and more recently by satellites, the already huge continental networks of Europe, Asia, Africa, the Americas and Oceania form a single, efficient machine of a size and complexity hard to visualize even a few years ago.

Yet on average there are still fewer than 10 telephones per 100 of the world's population compared with more than 60 telephones per 100 population in high telephone density countries like the USA and Sweden.

In a number of developing countries, the figure is less than one telephone per hundred population.

### Technology in transition.

At the same time, the technology of telecommunications is in a state of transition from electromechanical to electronic products and systems.

Telephone and telecommunications administrations have access to equipment offering them and their subscribers more and better facilities and services than ever before.

Business communication is entering a new era of not just voice communication, but data and facsimile as well.

Ancillary telecommunications-related systems — signalling and security systems, time control, traffic control, radio communication systems, radar-related systems — are in more and more demand.

With the demand for more and better communications, the need for basic products such as wire and cable, network and power supply products, and so on, will remain on a high level.

The world's biggest machine seems certain to become bigger still over the next few decades.

The quality of being capable.

Having the right products in the right place at the right time to meet these needs is obviously very important.

Ericsson has been a leader in the technology of telecommunications virtually from the beginning. During 1976 investments in research and development programs designed to meet or anticipate the growing needs of customers around the world reached £84,000,000.

But overall capability — the quality of being capable — means more than just supplying the right products, particularly with the technology of telecommunications in transition.

Although electromechanical systems will continue to serve well and efficiently for a long time to come, the transition in technology to electronic systems will pose new problems as new skills have to be built up.

Long-term commitments on the part of a supplier, always important, will become even more vital, particularly in less developed countries still at a comparatively early stage in the built-up of their telecommunications systems.

At Ericsson, we don't just sell products. We transfer technology, knowhow and skills as part of long-term customer relationships.

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At Ericsson, we've developed our business the hard way.  
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No conglomeration.  
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The result is that today we're one of the world's major telecommunications groups with more than 70,000 people worldwide, 70 factories in 15 countries, operations in more than 100 countries and annual sales in 1976 amounting to £1,045,000,000.

**Capability** — the quality of being capable. If you're already an Ericsson customer, you know what we mean. If you're not an Ericsson customer, we hope you will give us the opportunity to show you one day.

In fact, the sooner, the better.

The Ericsson Group specializes in the design, manufacture and installation of telecommunications systems. Including public and private telephone exchanges; telephones; transmission, cable and network products; intercom, radio and data communication systems; components. For details, write: Thorn-Ericsson Telecommunications Ltd, Horns-ham, Sussex, RH 13 5QP or the group world headquarters, Telefon AB Lm Ericsson, S-126 25 Stockholm, Sweden.

**The Ericsson Group.**  
*Partners in telecommunication progress worldwide.*



## Price changes put demand out of step with supply

Conflicting pressures are shaping the change from the United Kingdom's present network of telecommunication systems to the all-electronic systems of the future. The transfer from traditional electromechanical systems has already begun, but the huge investment that the existing system represents is a forcible constraint.

In the development and introduction of new transmission and switching methods, a basic need is to cope with a steadily expanding volume of traffic and to do so at a decreasing unit cost. As more and more countries, towns and cities are interconnected by direct dialling, design for compatibility with world networks continues to be essential.

The change in technology is already having a serious effect on employment in the telecommunications industry, since manufacture and assembly of electronic equipment need far fewer people. New peripheral products are in part the answer, but Post Office specifications can determine the competitiveness of British systems in overseas markets, an equally important factor.

To expand a modern telecommunications system to meet public demand at growth rates of 6 to 8 per cent calls for a lot of money, as Sir Edward Fennessy, the managing director of the Post Office telecommunications business, points out. Annual investment in Post Office telecommunications in Britain is about £1,000m, or about 0.8 per cent of the gross domestic product—roughly the same as for other European countries.

Sir Edward suggests that, looking forward over the next 20 years, the provision of finance will present perhaps the most formidable barrier to progress. Investment must be planned to match demand, but demand is dependent on the cost to the public of the service and upon the economic condi-

tions prevailing at the time. Buildings must be erected and equipment ordered several years in advance of their equipment being required in service. Such huge programmes cannot readily be trimmed to match changes in demand arising from arbitrary political or regulatory decisions on tariffs.

"Short-term arbitrary decisions on pricing frequently result in demand and supply being in anti-phase," Sir Edward says, "resulting in inefficient use of assets representing vast sums of money. Not only does this result in inefficiency in the telephone service itself but it has a most damaging impact on the efficiency of the equipment supply industry."

National differences in the technical characteristics of telecommunications systems are a big constraint on their continuing development. To replace them in the short term would impose a heavy financial burden.

Thus in the United Kingdom, Sir Edward points out, the replacement value of the Scrowger electromechanical switching equipment to be displaced by modern units is about £2,500m—and, for logistic and financial reasons, this replacement will take 20 years to accomplish.

"The forward development of any system must therefore be evolutionary," Sir Edward says, "with the new equipment designed to interwork effectively with the old, and the new itself designed as far as possible in a way that will impose minimum constraint on future developments as yet but broadly envisaged."

And the possibilities opened up by new technology are immense.

"The ability of the system to provide close links between computer centres and between remote inputs and central computers; the

potential of Videotext, of facsimile and of word processing; and further ahead the ability to bring people together with visual communication of such quality that something approaching the total communication achieved in actually meeting becomes possible—all these are areas of major potential growth."

Two main elements of costs in a telecommunications network are those of transmission and of switching. In the United Kingdom, transmission costs have steadily declined, but switching costs have remained stubbornly constant over many years despite the replacement of Scrowger by Crossbar (both electromechanical) and the introduction of the semi-electronic exchanges.

Hence the moves into digital switching. When used with existing analogue systems of transmission, digital switching offers important cost reductions; for the future, the prospect of all-digital switching and transmission promises even bigger reductions in both capital and operating costs.

As Sir Edward sees it, the small prospect is clear: "We now have within our laboratories all the necessary fundamental knowledge to ensure that the telecommunications networks of the many countries that constitute the global system can be developed in a way which makes the maximum use of digital technology and of the new methods of transmission."

"In all these developments the use of the silicon integrated circuit will have a profound effect on reduction in equipment volume and cost, while software will become as important an element as hardware."

"It will of course place challenging demands on the engineering design team and it will present particular problems to the manufacturing industry; the nature of



In the autumn telephone users at Perivale will be the first in London to have their calls connected by the new TXE4 exchange (above), part of a £1,500m modernization of exchanges.

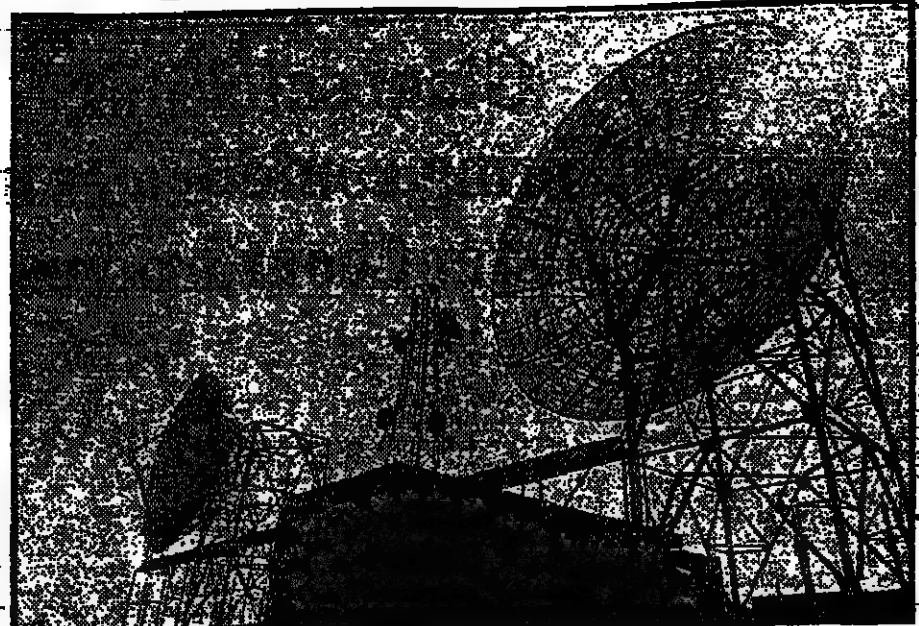
whose products will over the next decade undergo a fundamental change.

"These changes will involve dramatic modifications in the nature of production processes, and will inevitably lead to increasing rationalization of production facilities on a national and worldwide scale. All this will call for much imagination, sound planning and determination and very substantial financial resources."

A measure of the dramatic impact on the industry was given recently by Mr. Kenneth Corfield, the managing director of Standard Telephones and Cables. For every hundred direct operators needed to make electromechanical exchanges, his figures showed, only about 40 were needed for the present generation of semi-electronic ones—decreasing to only four for the all-electronic systems of the future.

Kenneth Owen  
Technology Correspondent

## Merger must end battle of the big industries



BF's tropospheric scatter terminal near Dyce, Aberdeenshire, which provides a multi-channel link with North Sea oil rigs.

An intriguing demarcation dispute rumbles on between the telecommunications specialists of some countries and computer experts. The tremors started more than ten years ago when it was apparent that the computer was about to connect to telephone lines equipment for sending digital data between branch and head offices.

A battleground was set between two of the most powerful industries in the world. As they are both in the business of processing information, they must inevitably merge, yet a confrontation was natural since there are immense financial pickings and political power at stake.

The trend in data communication was well forecast by industrialists and research workers, predicting that more computer information would be carried by the telecommunications networks than telephone and telex traffic.

As airlines, banks, universities, factories, government departments, armed services, police forces, and many others have established data links this assessment was well justified. Since some national telecommunications authorities are installing computer controlled public telephone exchanges in their networks, it is becoming difficult to decide where one discipline begins and the other ends.

Not surprisingly a new generation of technologists is emerging who cover this area as computer communications experts. On the other hand the interests of the telecommunications authorities, like the Post Office in Britain, and the commercial common carriers like AT&T (the Bell system in the United States), are not directly compatible with those of the computer industry.

The thousands of miles of copper wire under the ground and radio circuits above have many functions other than servicing the data extension machines.

Chaos would have overwhelmed the telecommunications services decades ago had a formal system of protocols and international technical standards not been agreed long before the advent of the computer.

Some reluctance over allowing newcomers suddenly to start tampering with the network is understandable. The capacity of a telecommunications circuit is used in a subtle way to provide for a variety of signals systems need large serial

which control the network arrays and high-power transmitters, subject to atmospheric interference when voice or data is transmitted.

International agreement was clearly needed at the early stage, ensuring that telegraph wires and cables carried a universally recognized code for messages. Difficulties multiplied with radio circuits because the propagation of signals transmitted into the ether is not governed by territorial limits. Hence the accompanying table is generally accepted as the way to divide radio transmissions into a series of frequency bands.

To try to avoid conflict among users, a regulatory group of the Administrative Radio Conference of the International Telecommunications Union, in Geneva, meets at intervals of 10 to 15 years to review the rules for international communications and also regulations specified by national services.

Only in this way can interference both nationally and across frontiers be kept to a minimum. It is certainly not completely eliminated, as any listener to shortwave radio bands can attest.

The table also provides a rough chronology of advances in the radio sector of telecommunications, starting with long waves and very low frequency bands which are bent by diffraction round the world. But these

supplied to the Post Office by Marconi Communications for the shore stations and to platforms to link offshore rigs to the inland and international networks.

Response works at frequencies normally employed for line-of-sight communications, but radio waves of this wavelength are also deflected by turbulence in the atmosphere. At about one kilometre above the surface of the earth radio signals can be deflected to form a bridge over the horizon for high capacity communications.

In fact high levels of production of oil from the North Sea are dependent on advances in the use of troposcatter, with major links being designed by a special communications group of British Engineering. New radio systems have been

Pearce Wright

Frequency	Band	Application
3 Hz to 3 kHz	extra low frequency (elf)	Military research
3 kHz to 30 kHz	very low frequency (vlf)	Worldwide military and navigation
30 kHz to 300 kHz	low frequency (lf)	Long radio band up to 1,500 km
300 kHz to 3 MHz	medium frequency (mf)	Medium waveband broadcast
3 MHz to 30 MHz	high frequency (hf)	Short-wave communication and broadcast. Mobile land, ship-to-shore and shore-to-shore
30 MHz to 300 MHz	very high frequency (vhf)	Line-of-sight radio links, television
300 MHz to 3 GHz	ultra high frequency (uhf)	Line-of-sight links over 500 MHz troposcatter scatter of 600 km
3 GHz to 30 GHz	super high frequency (shf) (microwaves)	Space communication, satellite links, microwave relays
30 GHz to 300 GHz	extra high frequency (ehf) (millimetre waves)	

Hz = 1 cycle a second; kHz = 1,000 cycles; MHz = 1,000,000 cycles; GHz = 1,000,000,000 cycles

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مركزاً من راحل



## Radio and cable see-saw for supremacy

The recent completion of the largest capacity cable across the Atlantic illustrates the progress of the past 20 years in construction of submarine cables.

The new one, called TAT-6, carries 4,000 telephone calls at once, compared with 36 for the TAT-1 circuit completed in 1956.

Jointly owned by American, British and French telecommunications organizations, and costing £100m, the new link embodies improved materials for cable manufacture and advances in solid state electronics for the repeaters that have to be spliced into the line every few miles.

In 1901 the successful transmission of radio across the Atlantic by Marconi was regarded as a warning that the days of the cable were numbered. For nearly 50 years before, a worldwide network of telegraph cables, which had increased in efficiency from carrying three words a minute to 40 words a minute, had had a monopoly of international communications.

The first challenge to this supremacy came in 1927 when the Marconi company opened the first commercial radio-telegraph service between London and New York. Ever since, there has been a gentle technical jostling, coupled with cut-throat commercial competition—still in progress—so that leadership in certain types of transmission.

Telecommunications depend on harmonizing the

advantages of each method of sending messages, but there are battles about the best way of achieving such integration. It was more than 20 years before the transatlantic experiments by Marconi were turned into a system for telephone links and another between Denmark and Norway.

One reason for the resurgence of cables about 1950 was that the high frequency spectrum had become congested. Overcrowding of radio frequencies is a continuing difficulty, and the more intricate because useful parts of the radio band are preserved for defence purposes, though not being exploited.

Radio recovered by moving to ever higher frequencies and ingeniously using characteristics of the atmosphere to improve propagation. Thus the see-saw of progress between the various techniques continues: there are microwave systems for relaying radio messages by satellites, while for cables an equally exciting prospect lies ahead with the advent of fibre optics.

Fibre optic circuits will allow telephone, television pictures, computer data and any other signal handled by telecommunications methods to be carried along strands of glass the thickness of a hair. In principle at least, cables made of these strands could be installed with ease on one medium-sized cable-laying ship to put a girde round the earth. Fibre optics ceased to be a laboratory curiosity at least 10 years ago, and moved into a

phase of rigorous development to perfect methods for making cheap and reliable strands.

A parallel development in electronic components was also in progress which was to provide a vital discovery needed to nudge the fibre-optic phenomenon towards commercial application. The component was the pin-sized light-emitting diode for feeding signals into the fibre pathway. This device is a miniature laser.

Although routine use in the telephone network is not expected before 1980, two important trials are being started with fibre optics. One is over a 7km route between Hitchen and Stevenage, Hertfordshire, where Standard Telephone and Cables has laid a cable for carrying almost 2,000 calls. The other trial is by the Post Office's research centre at Martlesham, Suffolk. A 5km and 7km link connects the centre via Kesgrave to Ipswich.

Fibre optic circuits have a transmitter and receiver at each end like any other telecommunication line. In this case the transmitter converts the usual telephone, or any other, electrical signal into a pulse of light. At the receiving end the process is reversed to regenerate the electrical signal. Intermediate repeaters are needed on long paths in the same way as they are installed on traditional cables, only in this case they are optical amplifiers.

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P.W.

## Dial-a-fact television becoming reality



day when people or work can call to obtain the facts they need over public television, and have it put to them quickly and accurately, is a reality. This is the vision of Sir William Post Office, chairman in September, 1975. William was referring to a new concept as Viewdata, which the Post Office had just used. Since then, the Post Office has been working on Viewdata, and a key word in the system is 'dial-a-fact'. This is a system which allows a user to dial a number on a television set, and a computer will then provide the information requested. The system is being developed by the Post Office, and is expected to be available in the near future. The system will allow users to access a vast amount of information, including news, weather, and sports. It will also allow users to interact with the system, and to request specific information. The system is being developed by the Post Office, and is expected to be available in the near future.

information source", he says. "Much of this information is already in existence in a variety of newspapers, magazines, books of reference, timetables, and so on. The problem, however, is that it is not always readily available when one needs it."

"Second, we see Viewdata as an intelligent interface with specialized databases." By this Mr. Fedida means it will provide easier access to complicated reference files—for example, on scientific and technical subjects.

"Third, we see Viewdata as a communication machine for passing messages between individuals and between individuals and machines. Fourth, we see Viewdata as a temporary or semi-permanent store of information for an individual's own use, which he may need access to frequently wherever he may be."

"Fifth, we see Viewdata as a new information medium which, like any other medium, is made available to those private and public agencies that make it their business to distribute information for profit or as a public service. Sixth, we see Viewdata as providing a powerful channel for education in the home."

"Seventh, we see Viewdata as providing an advanced calculator service, somewhere between the capability of a pocket calculator and that of a powerful computer."

The one-way services based on access to information are being implemented first, with the two-way, interactive uses such as messages, calculations and education expected to follow.

Pilot trials with Viewdata began last year, involving the Post Office, television receiver manufacturers and a wide range of information-providing organizations. Newspapers, news agencies, magazines and book publishers are participating.

Consumer interests include the Consumers' Association, the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection and the British Farm Produce Council, which provides the recipes for the existing "Dial a Dish" telephone service.

Information for travellers and holidaymakers is being provided by the English Tourist Board, British Rail, London Transport and the Transport and Road Research Laboratory of the

Choose your financial news: this Viewdata terminal may be in business use in a year or two.

Department of the Environment.

Educational material is being supplied by the University Central Council for Admissions and by the Open University. As well as providing syllabus information, the Open University is to experiment with presenting course material for students.

Other suppliers of information include the Stock Exchange, the Institute of Scientific Information, the Central Office of Information, the National Giro and the Department for National Savings.

These pilot trials are the first step towards a possible public service. They will enable the Post Office to determine the range of information to be provided, consider charges that might be made for some types of information, and assess the likely demand.

Viewdata has about 5,000 pages of information on file. The next stage of development is to mount a market trial, beginning in June 1978 and costing about £4m. By the time the trial is under way the available information will total about 70,000 pages.

About 1,000 people in London, Norwich and Birmingham will be involved in the market trial. The main object of the trial is to determine whether Viewdata can be offered on a competitive basis both to domestic and to business users. A full alphanumeric keypad is being developed; for business users a single terminal which incorporates both a television-like screen and a keyboard is envisaged.

A network of local, regional and national computer centres is envisaged if the full system goes ahead. Initially the main use of Viewdata would be in looking up information—dialling up the appropriate number and viewing the information on the television screen rather than looking it up in directories.

But potentially it could revolutionize lives in other ways—by giving deaf people, for example, the means to communicate with each other.

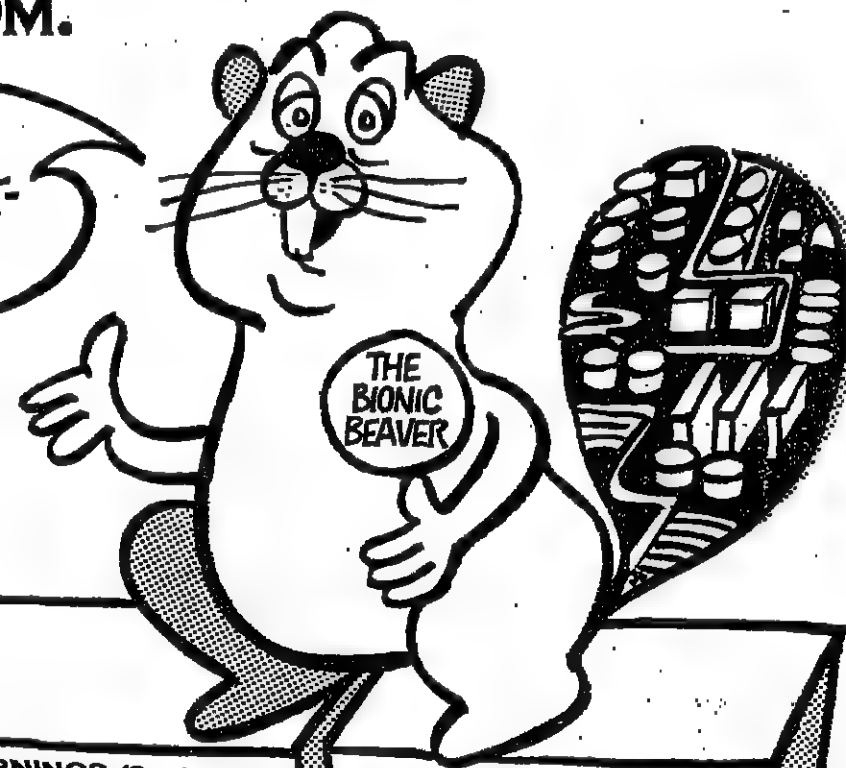
Also, says Mr. Fedida, "it is not difficult to visualize the development at some later date of warehouses of information, similar to warehouses for physical goods."

K.O.

# 1976.

## THE YEAR OF THE BEAVER. ANOTHER BILLION-DOLLAR, RECORD-BREAKING YEAR FOR NORTHERN TELECOM.

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It was the end of a five-year period in which sales doubled and earnings almost quadrupled. Consolidated sales in 1976 were \$1.112 billion, an increase of 9.2 percent over 1975's record sales. Consolidated net earnings rose 14.2 percent to \$77.1 million. Earnings per share were \$2.91 compared with \$2.55 in the previous year.

Three new plants were opened, two in Canada and one in the U.S.; facilities were expanded in seven locations in Canada, the U.S. and Turkey.

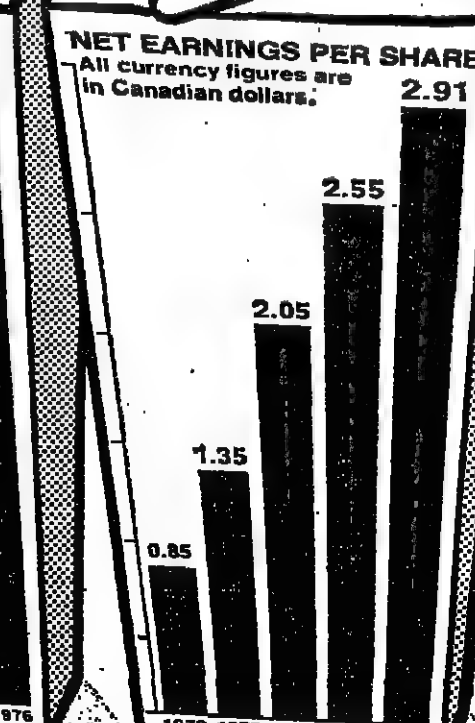
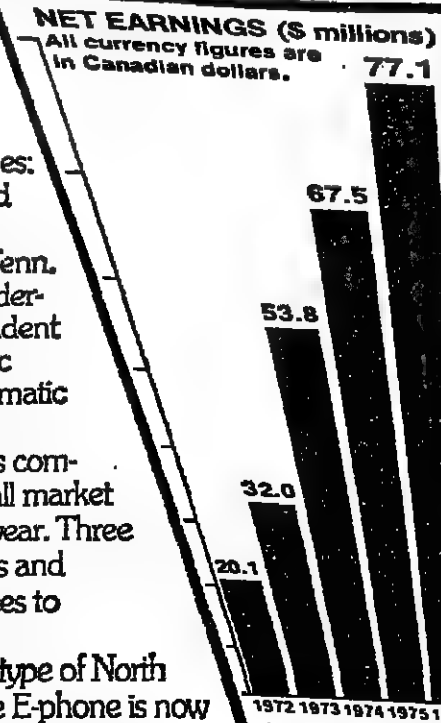
In December we acquired two companies: Cook Electric Company of Chicago and its nine plants, and Telecommunication Systems of America, Inc. of Memphis, Tenn. We maintained undisputed product leadership in Canada and in the U.S. independent telephone company market in electronic central office switching and private automatic branch exchanges.

Northern Telecom's new digital business communications system, the SL-1, outsold all market projections in North America in its first year. Three of Europe's leading telecommunications and electronics organizations received licences to manufacture it in their home markets.

In May we unveiled a working lab prototype of North America's first electronic telephone. The E-phone is now undergoing field testing and is expected in the market in early 1978.

Also in May, we became the first company in the world to announce a full line of digital switching and transmission equipment to be available between 1977 and 1980.

These are but some of the highlights of another successful year. Why not learn about them all? For a copy of our annual report, write: Roy I. Cotter, vice-president, corporate relations, Northern Telecom Limited, P.O. Box 6123, Station A, Montreal, Quebec H3C 3J5.



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Lord Shawcross on the implications of the 'Private Eye' criminal libel case

# We must not allow criminal law to be used in private vendettas

In a letter published in *The Times* on April 23, 1976, I expressed some doubt whether the public interest had been served by the initiation by a Mr James Goldsmith (as he then was) of criminal proceedings for libel against Mr Ingrams and others in connection with *Private Eye*. The anxiety I then had has been strengthened by the subsequent course of events, and the fact that the prosecution has been withdrawn both poses new questions and leaves others unanswered. The whole affair raises issues going beyond the continuing uncertainty of the criminal law as to libel, important although that is, referred to in *The Times* leading article "But was not Mr Justice Wainman?" on May 17.

It should be said that under our system of precedent it would have been difficult (although not impossible) for the learned judge not to follow the old Court of Criminal Appeal decision in *R v Wicks* (1956) 1 AER 384, which although 40 years old was the latest and last authority.

That case appeared (and was so understood by the Faulks Committee on Defamation, although with the caveat "if the decision is correct") to decide that a breach of the peace as an ingredient in the offence of criminal libel did not have to be proved but was assumed as an inference of law. In the course of his judgment in the case, Mr Justice Du Parcq (as he then was) made the curious observation that there did not have to be proof that the libel in question would have been "unusually" likely to cause a breach of the peace.

A great many old cases are to different effect. It was an unsatisfactory case well worthy of consideration higher up in the judicial hierarchy. The possibility of this consideration being given to it has now been removed by the withdrawal of the prosecution. It is impossible

able that the case comes within the power of the Attorney General under Section 36 of the Criminal Justice Act, 1972, as suggested in a letter from Mr Tunkel (May 20), and even less likely that the Attorney General will feel moved to intervene at this late stage. My own view as originally expressed was that he should have intervened as soon as leave to proceed was granted. No doubt if the case had proceeded to conviction, appeal would have been taken to the House of Lords.

It is an odd circumstance that the indictment did not follow the customary precedent of including some such words as "contrary to the Peace of our Sovereign Lady the Queen" and this omission might well have been a reason for a motion to quash the indictment had the prosecution not been withdrawn. At least the draughtsman did not substitute "contrary to the peace of our Sir James Goldsmith" for that which is exactly what this case was about.

At the time leave to prosecute had been given, Mr Goldsmith had received a full apology, which could have been widely published: there were many civil actions pending for libel damages in which (although Lord Denning in a minority judgment had pronounced some of them an abuse of legal process) substantial damages might have been awarded. But Mr Goldsmith wished, not unreasonably, to vindicate his character by securing the criminal conviction of his false detractors. And so he went to war against them. Now developing an interest himself in the press, but with his reputation in the City said by *The Times* to be "worse than a poor" (May 17), he understandably wishes to be seen with (pace Mr Dubcek) a more human face, and so he made what Mr Justice Bristow is said to have described as a "reary of peace" (May 17).

The criminal law, however, should not be used as a

weapon in personal vendettas between private individuals. Once started, an official prosecution proceeds in the name of the Crown, costs being payable out of public funds and its course depending only on the public interest. Mr Justice Wainman, in a thoughtful and careful opinion, recognised the public interest aspect in granting leave to proceed. In exercising what he rightly described as "his enormous responsibility" he directed his mind to the public interest although, as *The Times* suggested, and I think he may perhaps have reached a mistaken conclusion in deciding in "this clear and serious case that the public interest required the institution of criminal proceedings".

It is certainly difficult to suppose in the light of his expressed reasoning that he would have granted leave to prosecute if he had thought that the prosecution might be "settled" at the whim of the private prosecutor as part of a package deal or a treaty of peace between the parties. Yet so it was.

Two weeks ago, in what had all the appearance of inspired and orchestrated press publicity, it was said that the whole matter had been settled: it had been agreed that not only the civil proceedings but also the criminal prosecution would be withdrawn. It would be "dropped". Not a word about the Crown nor about the need to secure the consent of the court. And the consideration was stated to be the publication of an apology (before and anticipating the court's consent) in the evening paper currently favoured by Sir James, and the payment over a period of £30,000. It was a package deal. But it improperly prejudged the decision of the court. I have no doubt that the lawyers on both sides were no party to this.

In the event the court did indeed agree that the prosecution

might be withdrawn. Some reference appears to have been made to the Director of Public Prosecutions. He was said not to wish to take over the prosecution. Why should he? He may well have thought there ought not to have been a prosecution in the first instance; if he had not it was his duty to have prosecuted or he could have decided to take over the prosecution himself. The DPP did not usurp the Judge's discretion; he knew that once started the prosecution would have to proceed unless the trial judge decided it was in the public interest that it should be withdrawn. The learned judge did so decide. According to press reports Mr Justice Bristow stated that "it was perfectly right that the prosecution should have been launched or it would not have got leave from Mr Justice Wainman". That would undoubtedly have been a matter for argument before the learned judge and a jury. Defence counsel said that the prosecution would have been strenuously contested. In the absence of argument the judge could hardly differ from his brother of coordinate jurisdiction who had already so decided.

But Mr Justice Bristow had considered whether it was in the public interest to allow the public interest to be withdrawn a prosecution which "it was perfectly right to start" in the public interest. Nobody doubts that it was in the interest of Sir James Goldsmith to withdraw. But there is no judicial presumption that the public interest necessarily and always coincides with the interest of Sir James.

It is unfortunate that press reports do not record any change in circumstances. Mr Justice Bristow held that since a year before when Mr Justice Wainman decided that a prosecution was in the public interest, the circumstances had changed. Mr Justice Bristow, most able and careful judge, did con-

sider that the public interest required a withdrawal. Unfortunately, newspaper reports do not record his reasoning—if indeed he publicly explained it. To some others not less eminent in the law, the reasoning is not obvious.

One reason would, of course, have been that he really considered the prosecution ought never to have been brought but that it brought a "peace treaty" was better than a "peace war". That, however, is not what the criminal law is about. Another, somewhat plausible, result of this very unusual procedure is that the defence has been precluded from challenging Mr Justice Wainman's conclusions of fact and law as, had the case proceeded, it would no doubt have done. The defence was only bound by the leave to proceed which the judge had given: the giving of leave would, of course, have been no evidence at all that an offence had in fact been committed.

The lessons which clearly emerge from this strange affair are that either the offence of criminal libel should be abolished as, in spite of the contrary view of the Faulks Committee, I am inclined to think, or that there should be a right of appeal on legal grounds from the decision to grant leave to proceed to a private prosecutor. In the event of leave being granted the Attorney General, as the traditional (if sometimes somewhat) protector of the public interest, should instruct the Director of Public Prosecutions to take over the case. The hazards of the civil law of libel are bad enough: it is intolerable that the right to freedom of speech and the liberty of the press should be threatened by the criminal law and the risk that it may be used as a weapon at the whim of private individuals.

The author is a former Attorney General.  
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## What the TUC must do now after this betrayal of the social contract

Incomes policy has now become so important a part of the social contract that the media and, more surprisingly, ministers, often speak as though the two were synonymous. This reflects the fact that the most remarkable achievement of the past two years has been the rigorous observance of pay policy. No trade union has broken the guidelines of the two phases of pay restraint, despite the difficulties which have arisen.

The achievement is measurable by the decline in the standard of living of union members. The need for a return to normal pay bargaining can be measured by the same decline. Not only has the real value of gross pay declined, so also has the real value of take-home pay after tax, despite the tax changes of the 1976 and 1977 budgets.

Continued acceptance of cuts in real wages cannot be taken for granted: rising prices, public spending cuts and rising unemployment, looks less plausible as a panacea for the economic problems faced by working people.

After the decline in living standards of the past two years it should be the main priority for the trade union movement to restore the value of wages. Voluntary restraint has left us with reduced living standards, a rate of inflation over 15 per cent, higher unemployment and continued stagnation. There is a heavy burden of proof on the Government to justify further wage restraint in 1977-1978.

We need to return to normal collective bargaining which will allow the anomalies and problems of the sort which have arisen through the inflexibility of negotiations between unions and management.

There must also be a clear understanding that the return to free collective bargaining will be in the public sector as much as the private sector. Fairness to the public sector is

only possible if the system of cash limits is ended.

The large cuts in public spending represent the most blatant disregard of the social contract on the part of the Government. No action by trade unions could have discredited the social contract as much as this policy.

It has not only cut the social wage, it has increased unemployment and prices and by the introduction of cash limits introduced a permanent threat to the health service, other public services and the right of collective bargaining. The time is long overdue for the TUC General Council to give its leadership to the campaign to reverse the cuts.

The Government has not been pursuing any of the policies to which the TUC is committed, but has rather adopted a mixture of "orthodox" measures and monetarist policies. The failure of the past two years has been because its policies have not been the policies of the social contract.

It is the duty of the TUC to the trade union movement to state this clearly. There must be an end to the systematic deficit whereby the Government pretends its policies have the support of congress and the general council pretends that the Government is observing the social contract. Neither is true. The TUC policies on public expenditure, prices and investment have not only been ignored but reversed.

The role of the general council has increasingly become that of an apologist for the Government rather than that of an independent body. In doing so, it has tended to conform to the image presented by the media of the general council as an arm of government, and to react to unions seeking a change in government policy by simply repeating the government defences of such policies.

It is symptomatic of this in-

creasing governmentalisation of the general council that campaigns in defence of public policy—against expenditure cuts, for transport and for child benefits—have been organised without any input or support from the council.

There is nothing wrong with the general council's view of the view of the view of congress that there be a Labour Government: there is much wrong with inference that congress fore accepts and defends policies of a Labour Government.

It may be true that ministers are not like carry out the policies by congress, but the general council must maximise the pressure on Government to do so—minimise it.

The role of the TUC revert to its proper role as spokesman and leader of the trade union movement, attempt to exhibit support for the Labour Government some time as attempting the social contract pursues resulted in the social contract being tacitly abandoned, dangers of the leadership of the trade union movement utilised by its own with the government of it have been clearly illustrated.

The last two years have used constructively to lessons for the future. We believe that the return to collective bargaining should be seen as a positive opportunity to pursue the wider policy of the TUC, and not as a unity. Unity under free collective bargaining is a way forward, where under incomes policy failed.

Campbell Cini

The author is deputy General Secretary of the Society, Civil and Public Servants.

## Why the politicians have to keep a beady eye on Whitehall

It is nothing new for politicians within sight, as they hope, of taking office, to be suspicious that the incoherence with which they have been elected may be frustrated by different attitudes to policy logrolled in their permanent officials. With respect to Mr Mandelson's statement of defence of the officials in yesterday's *Times*, the suspicion is understandable, and, in some respects, justified.

Such feelings have always been stronger on the left than on the right. Long before Dick Crossman submitted to the ministerial experience which conditioned the attitude he displayed in his diaries, he nurtured suspicions of Whitehall. It was, I think, as far back as the later Macmillan years that I read an article he wrote for the *New Statesman* in which he asserted that the

ultimate failure of the Attlee government was the result of its resistance of Whitehall to its intentions. And there is one particular way in which the Labour Party suffers from its encounter with officialdom as the Tories do not. Social democrats have not frequently incompatible objectives. The first is to run an economically solvent mixed economy, appropriate to a

democratic society as that term has been traditionally understood in Britain. This often makes demands that are bound to conflict with the second objective (which has been explained, so far as it is, in opposition to a high state-spending, state-owning, state-controlling socialist society).

Since the democratic mixed economy is what Labour ministers tend to want most, its preservation often requires advice that is contrary to other Labour instincts. That is Labour's special problem with the officials—but I do not doubt that, if they came to power with a total socialist mandate, and demanded advice for its implementation, they would be loyally given it by their officials.

The Conservatives, however, have this advantage too, and, in recognition of them, Mrs Thatcher is now, as reported in *The Times* on Tuesday, contemplating making changes at No 10.

First, she is thinking of appointing a ministerial "chief of staff" to help her personally coordinate the activities of other ministers. Secondly, she has it in mind to appoint a personal group of special advisers from outside Whitehall to help her make Conservative decisions in the face of any different attitudes which may be entrenched in the permanent officials, particularly over the economy.

There is, of course, nothing new in the idea of a cabinet of politically sympathetic advisers. The idea has been borrowed from the French. It has been popular here among instinctive reformers as a cure for the

democratic society as that term has been traditionally understood in Britain. This often makes demands that are bound to conflict with the second objective (which has been explained, so far as it is, in opposition to a high state-spending, state-owning, state-controlling socialist society).

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### Ronald Butt

shortcomings of British civil servants ever since the early sixties, when everything wrong with Britain was explained away by mechanistic institutional faults—especially by a closed Civil Service allegedly immune from bias, prejudice, imagination and experience.

Since then, we have had the reform of the Civil Service along the lines of the Fulton report, yet things, to the outside at least, seem much the same.

Yet there are two ways in which the Civil Service can hold a pivotal position in frustrating the political will of the elected representatives and also the popular will which sometimes, though not always, the same.

First, when officials have been in touch with one party as their political masters for a long time, the inevitable assumption of the prevailing establishment rubs off on it. If Mrs Thatcher becomes Prime Minister (say) in 1978, she will follow a period of 14 years Labour hegemony, broken by 3½ years of Tory rule which was discredited by the circumstances in which it ended.

During that time, certain norms of thought have been established which could easily make it difficult for her to translate Tory ideas into action. It is also a fact that government departments do have their own policies which tend to persist as ministers of different views come and go.

Of course, the officials obey their political masters' instructions; they will produce the means for doing what the ministers require. Yet it is also true that the officials, in the consequences they foresee, and those (which may determine the officials' predilections about what is the right and workable way to do it).

Thus the trade department for the whole postwar period has been for trade liberalisation and against protection; the Foreign Office was first against, then pro, protection for the EEC. The education department, through its constant intellectual intercourse with "educationalists" and the prevailing socialist view, became converted from the idea of equality of opportunity to egalitarianism. It is because of the comprehensive "reform" of school structure and what are called progressive teaching and educational methods.

When Mrs Thatcher arrived there in 1974, she met a philosophy of the Commons to consider Mr William Bagnall's Bill to deal with abuses of abortion, despite the fact that these arise from the private member's 1967 Bill for which the then Labour Government did find time. Yet the Bagnall Bill has the weight of a Commons Select Committee behind it.

It has been quashed largely because the DHSS, with its close connections with the pressure groups in this area, will do its best to prevent the Commons from being deliberately deprived of the opportunity to pronounce on the work of its own select committee.

That is one social case history

of departmental influence, to turn to the (perhaps) emotive area of economic policy. As everyone knows, and as economists have come and gone, the public has been told successively, first, that action was unnecessary; and then, when the consequences of inaction seemed unacceptable, that action was too late. The relationship between the Home Office and the pressure groups on immigration would one day make an interesting postgraduate thesis.

To move to another ministry, the Department of Health and Social Security, despite the steady decline in what the Health Service can offer the public, has always discouraged any idea of radical change in the financial basis of the NHS, and while we are on the subject of the DHSS, a symptomatic demonstration of its power was shown by Mr Foot's announcement this week that the Government will find no time for the Commons to consider Mr William Bagnall's Bill to deal with abuses of abortion, despite the fact that these arise from the private member's 1967 Bill for which the then Labour Government did find time. Yet the Bagnall Bill has the weight of a Commons Select Committee behind it.

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There are other things the economy which, I think, Conservatives will be in to change. The new from the educational class government of only a few, ago is one symptom of the Conservatives have courage to stimulate economic growth. The from the Civil Service, the officials and the so will be happy to oblige their own.

## THE TIMES DIARY / PHS

### The agony and the expectancy

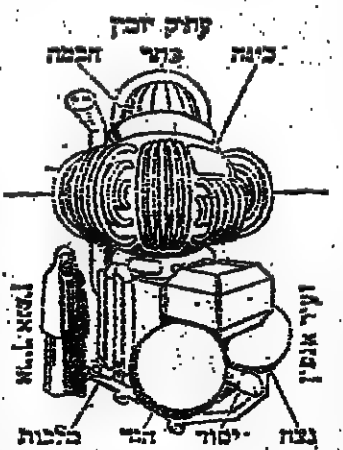
My old friend, David James, the urbane MP for North Dorset who is to retire at the next election, has been trying to convince the Government that the method of announcing election results is both archaic and confusing. He feels that results should be announced (like horse racing results) in a first-past-the-post manner.

The Minister for Obsolete (Mr John, Minister of State for Home Affairs—whatever that might mean) has just stated in the Commons, however, that "it is primarily a matter for the returning officer to decide. I doubt whether legislation would be appropriate."

Mr James has never proposed that it would be. All he wants is a clear understanding from the Home Office, explaining that the alphabetical order should be dropped and the one, two, three system adopted.

He told me yesterday that the whole matter has become involved. "I remember when I was a candidate at Brighton, Kempdown, in 1964 and was defeated by seven votes by Dennis Hadden. That made for a really explosive situation. I would have thought the sort of wail was deflating more than explosive."

Wellington College boasts three living Field Marshals among its old boys: Sir Claude Auchinleck, Sir Gerald Templer and Sir Geoffrey Baker. Military men will tell me whether this is a record.



### Concorde story—continued

My grim tale on Concorde earlier this week, about one man's frustration in trying to book New York-Washington to catch the wonder plane to Britain, has drawn a fusillade of statistics from British Airways.

In Concorde's just-ended first year of Washington flights, 20,000 seats were sold. And of the 50 per cent of those passengers who were from the United States, up to 15 per cent flew New York-Washington. Frustration-free, it seems.

Eric von Däniken must be feeling that his astronaut gods have forsaken him these days. A new book by the best-selling high priest of astro-theology has just been published. It dwells at some length on the object above, which you will instantly recognize as a mama-making machine. The Israelis of old invented it, according to the New Scientist magazine. Acknowledging the source, Mr Däniken writes in his new work: "One is tempted to speculate that, about 3,000 years ago, the earth was visited by creatures from space and they brought the machines with them." The magazine article was published on April 1. The significance of that date, clearly, has been lost on Mr Däniken. The hoax story appears in this month's *Encounter*. It is told by Helmut Gardner who maintains an astonishingly straight face throughout.

his saints and virgins were idealized representations which have enabled him "to finish with Christian mythology". Now, he is sick of such imagery and wants to devote himself to painting children (well, that is what he said).

"I want to bring out the fact that I am a colourist from now on", he added. And I must say that his more recent work is certainly more colourful than his exhibition in London two years ago. If the symbolism of the paintings does not grab you, then you may (just) be excited by the decorative quality: the models are remarkably decorative.

### The road back to atrocity

I learnt yesterday why a Soviet satellite count named after Gladstone, in Batka, Bulgaria, in 1977 the dreaded bashi-bazouks of the Turkish 5,000 in a local church.

More vehemently did Gladstone condemn the atrocity than others even more horrible. A British MP, Robert J. More, appointed himself in gaiter and went out to Bul after reading his reports, Strangford, known for humanitarian works, set up pins for the victims that the massacre zone; at a lesser-known Florence, England.

More's grandson, Jas like his grandfather, M Ludlow—has just returned Bulgaria where, as guest of Government, he follows his grandfather's footsteps visited memorials of massacres of a century. Mr More told me that church at Batka, now run Plovdiv, much of the work is gone. It was so stained during the mass that the Turkish remedy before it could be use evidence against them.

Five years ago, Miss Flor Barnes, of London, E8, a 10p postal order to the *Times* Blackfriars headquarters. It was for the 1972 Derby. The triest arrived this week, eight days before the 1977 Derby. A slight comfort: Mrs Barnes had not picked winning three.



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the Ashmolean Art Museum, Portland  
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gives little clue to the identification  
of the building in the centre left.  
distance is proved by Mr Reid's  
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eastern side of College Road (then  
known as Church Road) and over-  
looking it.

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Yours faithfully,  
BENEDICT NICHOLSON.  
Editor, The Burlington Magazine,  
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BONDS DRAWN

Table with 4 columns: Bond Number, Coupon Rate, Bond Number, Coupon Rate. Rows show bond numbers 21907 to 20383 and their corresponding coupon rates.

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UK inflation predicted at 14pc this year

By Melvyn Westlake

Inflation in Britain during 1977 is now expected by some independent economic forecasters to be a little higher than they originally thought likely.

On the other hand, all but one of the forecasters shown in the accompanying table expect the current account of the balance of payments to be either just in equilibrium or in surplus this year.

The three forecasters that have revised their predictions in recent weeks now, on average, pitch their projections for inflation at around 14 per cent, rather than 13 per cent. They have also marginally reduced their growth forecasts for 1977 and their predictions of export expansion. At the same time, consumption—both public and private consumption—is still generally seen as flat or falling.

Germany tackles problems of unemployment

From Peter Norman

Bonn, May 25

The West German Federal Government today agreed on a batch of measures designed to ease the country's large-scale unemployment problem this year and in 1978.

But although several hundred million marks are involved, today's decisions are expected to make only a dent in the total number of unemployed, which currently stands at about one million.

At a meeting of the Cabinet in Bonn it was decided to allocate DM1,000m (about £247m) towards extending an existing programme for financing state-subsidised housing beyond the end of this year to the end of 1978.

The programme will also be expanded in the current year so that 30,000 housing units can be financed in addition to the 50,000 already planned.

As well as these measures, which are intended to aid Germany's hard-pressed building industry, the Cabinet decided to allocate an extra DM500m towards finding jobs for the so-called "problem groups" among the unemployed.

These include DM27m for the creation of part-time jobs to absorb some of the many married women in Germany seeking such employment.

It was also agreed to strengthen the personnel of the federal labour offices.

Daimler buys Euclid offshoot

Daimler-Benz AG announced in Bonn last night that it had signed an agreement with the White Motor Corporation of Cleveland, Ohio, to acquire White's Euclid heavy truck subsidiary. No financial details were disclosed.

TV coffee advertising ban

The French Government is to ban coffee advertisements on television for three months from June 1. Mme Christiane Scrivener, Secretary of State for Consumer Affairs, told a meeting of advertising companies yesterday. The move is designed to reduce coffee consumption and thus help the French trade balance.

Bovis awarded £9.5m in California suit

Bovis Corporation, the Canadian subsidiary of the Bovis Group, has been awarded a settlement of \$16.3m (about £9.5m) against the Water Resources Board of California. The settlement arises from a claim over a joint venture sponsored by Bovis Corporation's wholly-owned subsidiary, McNamara.

US calls for rich nation shift to deficit

Tokyo, May 25—Mr Michael Blumenthal, United States Treasury Secretary, today urged rich countries to shift their current account position into a deficit to help a global adjustment of payments imbalances.

He told bankers here that payments deficits must be distributed among countries in a pattern compatible with their ability to attract capital on a continuing basis.

The United States had shifted its current account dramatically from an \$11,000m surplus in 1975 to a \$10,000m deficit this year, contributing much to the stability of the international monetary system required is a similar shift in the position of surplus countries such as Japan, West Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands, he said.

He was speaking at the annual meeting of the International Monetary Conference, a group of about 110 commercial banks—half from the United States and the rest from 21 non-communist countries.

Mr Blumenthal said countries in surplus on current account—the balance of goods and services trade—must follow policies to ensure "maximum sustainable" growth of their economies with emphasis on the domestic market rather than on export growth.

As to large surpluses accumulated by members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, the problem would exist for "an extended period" and each country needed a "sound" policy to conserve energy and develop energy alternatives, he said.

He cited President Carter's proposal for a national energy plan to reduce United States oil imports to six million barrels a day by 1985 from about eight million last year.

On the special lending facility of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which was proposed by Dr Johannes Wittenberg, IMF managing director, Mr Blumenthal said he strongly favoured United States participation, "with appropriate credits from Opec countries and the industrial world".

He later told a press conference that the Saudi Arabian Government had indicated its intention to participate in the Wittenberg facility, which was endorsed by the IMF interim committee last month. Kuwait, Venezuela, Iran, the United Arab Emirates were likely to follow suit.

It was desirable that the Opec bloc, industrial countries contribute on a 50-50 basis.

FORECASTS FOR THE BRITISH ECONOMY

Table with 10 columns: Year 1977/Year 1976, LBS, H, HG, P & D, Treasury, NIESR. Rows show Consumption, Private investment inc housebuilding, Public investment inc housebuilding, Public authorities consumption, Exports, Imports, Stockbuilding (Em) Year 1977, Gross domestic product after adjustment to factor cost, Inflation forecast, Balance of payments current account deficit (Em) Year 1977.

NIESR National Institute of Economic and Social Research  
LBS London Business School  
H Henley Centre  
HG Hoare Govett as provided by dataSTREAM  
P & D Phillips & Drew.

Fourth qtr 1977 on fourth qtr 1976  
Treasury forecasts that the current account will be in balance during second half of 1977, with £500m surplus in first half of 1978.

All forecasts are in constant prices seasonally adjusted and at annual rates. The stockbuilding and balance of payments forecasts in the second half-1977/second half 1975 section are forecasts for the second half of 1977 multiplied by two. Stockbuilding is in 1970 prices. The forecasts by the Treasury, the NIESR and LBS are based on the assumption of unchanged policies. The forecasts by H, HG and P & D assume changes in policy. For details readers should refer to original sources. Differences in results also reflect difference in assumptions, model constructions and date at which work performed. The month in which work was published is given in brackets. Forecasts published by the Treasury twice yearly; NIESR, four times a year; LBS, three times a year; H, HG and P & D revise their forecasts every month.

Business confidence highest for two years American growth accelerates sustained by capital spending

From Frank Vogl

San Francisco, May 25

A rapid rate of growth for the American economy is forecast for the next 12 months with the gross rate being sustained by a significant upward surge in plant and equipment spending.

This is the view of many of the nation's most prominent bankers and industrialists, who agree that business confidence is now stronger than at any time since the low point of the recession here almost exactly two years ago.

"I think the economy is now moving along the right course. The grounds for uncertainty are diminishing to some extent... Business confidence has grown in the last 30 days and I think it will continue to grow," according to Mr Leland Prussia, treasurer of Bank of America, the world's largest bank.

His opinion broadly reflects views in all business sectors, similar statements having been made in the last two weeks during conversations with The Times involving a dozen or so of the country's chief executives of major manufacturing, retailing and banking companies.

There is even evidence of substantial improvements in the largest and most depressed of all American business sectors, the construction industry. Volume in this sector has risen by about 10 per cent in the first three months of this year. Almost all the gain has been in housing.

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It was desirable that the Opec bloc, industrial countries contribute on a 50-50 basis.

PORTER CHADBURN LIMITED

Profit goes through £1m. mark

Results at a glance

Table with 2 columns: 1977, 1976. Rows show Turnover, Profit before Tax, Ordinary Dividends, Profit Retained, Earnings per Share, Net Dividends, Gross equivalent dividends.

\* Much higher profits from Brewery Equipment and Plastics Division in second half of year.  
\* Increase of 10% in sales volume achieved by greater productivity rationalisation and improved cost and production control.  
\* Through improved cash flow position, £500,000 programme investment in plant and machinery embarked upon.  
\* Order book is satisfactory and first three months show improvement over last year.

Highlights from the Statement by the Chairman, D. C. Sanford, C.B.

Operating subsidiaries

- PORTER-LANCASTRIAN LTD.
- CHADBURN BLOCKTUBE LTD.
- CHADBURN (M.D.S.) LTD.
- A. H. SENAR LTD.
- PORTER CHADBURN (PLASTICS) LTD.
- THE CLAYTON CRANE & HOIST COMPANY LTD.
- A. ROBINSON (ENGINEERING SERVICES) LTD.

A review of the activities of operating subsidiaries is included in the full Report and Accounts and Chairman's Statement which may be obtained from the Secretary:

PARK LANE - BOOTLE - MERSEYSIDE - L30 4UP

MORRIS & BLAKEY WALL PAPERS

decoremecca

Chairman Arnold Morris reports:-

- Turnover increased again to new record of £27.7m, but not enough to counteract increased overheads. Profit before tax was £284,929 (£378,045).
- Maintained total dividend of 16.4%.
- Seven additional stores opened since year end and should make a valuable contribution to profits in 1977. Policy of steady expansion with larger units continues.
- Further growth of sales of own Brand lines under DECORMECCA banner expected.
- Trading results for first quarter of 1977 somewhat disappointing but future viewed with confidence.

Annual General Meeting, 3rd June 1977

MULTIPLE SPECIALIST RETAILERS - WALLCOVERINGS - PAINTS - D.I.Y. MATERIALS

Redfeam National Glass Limited

Manufacturers of glass containers

Extracts from the statement by the Chairman, Mr. Stanley Race, circulated with the interim figures for the 26 weeks ended 3rd April 1977.

- Pre-tax profit ahead of budget at £1.03m.
- Sales up 18.5% to £17.5m as high level of demand continues.
- Capital investment programme continues. Increased capacity will be reflected in final results.
- Every confidence that 1977 results will be ahead of last year.

Table with 3 columns: 26 weeks ended 3rd April 1977, 26 weeks ended 28th March 1976. Rows show Sales, Profit before taxation, Taxation (estimated), Net profit, Earnings per ordinary share, Interim ordinary dividend, Tax credit, Cost of dividend (net).

Copies of the Interim Statement can be obtained from the Secretary, Redfeam National Glass Limited, Fishergate, York YO1 4AD

FADS The paint n paper people

Record turnover and pre-tax profit

Extracts from remarks by the chairman, Mr. M. J. Stanley, at the annual general meeting on 25 May 1977.

"I am confident that your company will continue to grow and expand"

M. J. Stanley

- Sales up 31% in first four months of 1977
- Margins improved in second half of 1976
- Continued expansion from own resources
- 10 new stores opened this year
- 9 more stores by mid summer
- Now over 110 FADS Homecare Centres

A copy of the report and accounts can be obtained from the Company Secretary, A. G. Stanley Holdings Limited, Stanley House, Gray Avenue, Orpington, Kent, BR5 3PW. Telephone: Orpington 71521

A.G. Stanley Holdings Ltd.

ARTHUR BELL

SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS

Ten Years of Growth

During the past decade group profit before tax has risen from just over £1 million to more than £7 million in 1976. Over this same period the value of the Company's Export sales of Scotch Whisky has increased by more than six times and Home Market sales have risen five-fold.

To meet the sales demand, annual output at distilleries has been increased from 1.4 million proof gallons to 4.3 million proof gallons.

The Company's policy is to continue to invest in the necessary additional stocks of maturing whisky, warehouses and manufacturing facilities in order to meet the forecast continued growth in worldwide demand for BELL'S Scotch Whisky.

EXPORT SALES £m

HOME SALES £m

TOTAL ASSETS £m

TRADING PROFIT £m

PROFIT AFTER TAX £m

EMPLOYEES

The record profit of 1976 could not have been achieved without the active support of all the Company's employees. Their efforts, made difficult by the frustrations imposed by the Government's pay and taxation policies, were greatly appreciated by the Board of Directors.

ARTHUR BELL & SONS LTD., ESTABLISHED 1825 — AND STILL AN INDEPENDENT COMPANY.

Copies of Arthur Bell & Sons Limited's Report and Accounts can be obtained from the Secretary, Cherrybank, Perth, Scotland.



## Shippers face lay-ups further six years, shipping chief says

By Patricia Tisdall  
Despite repeated pleas for import curbs by British footwear makers, the level continued to rise steeply during the first part of the year.

Figures produced by the British Footwear Manufacturers Federation yesterday show a 25.6 per cent increase in volume and a \$2.5 per cent rise by value in overall imports compared with the same quarter last year.

The continuing increases will add to the pressure for urgent government action on the industry's tripartite steering group this week.

Heavy increases are recorded for each of the three biggest overseas suppliers. Hongkong, which accounts for 27 per cent of the import total, sent 24 per cent more pairs of shoes than last year and their value went up by 5.9 per cent.

Italian shoe imports showed a 14 per cent rise in volume, and Taiwan, which accounts for 15 per cent of the import total, a staggering 145 per cent rise.

British manufacturers see the increase in imports from Taiwan as the first stage of what they fear will be a big drive by that country.

They predict that if imports continue at their present rate foreign shoes could overtake sales of British-made products by the end of this year. Shoe imports at present account for more than 40 per cent of the total market.

The industry steering group, in addition to government action on policing unfair imports, wants top level negotiations set up to remove trade barriers which inhibit exports.

Mr Peter Walters, new president of the General Council of British Shipping, says energy costs rise here to stay.

Signs that governments are prepared to take any sort of remedial action to ward off developments which could have disastrous implications for shipping, shipbuilding and financial institutions across the world.

In the liner trades, developing countries "see little benefit for them in liberal free trade principles". They were pursuing mercantilist policies to raise their share of world shipping through "tariffs, subsidies, and other measures".

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## Ship orders at 10-year low

March stood at its lowest level since the end of 1963. Indeed, the total order book at the end of March—51.4 million tons—was 38.5 per cent of the record industry order book of 133.4 million tons in March 1974.

Ships are struggling to capture a greater share of the reduced flow of orders, with many offering subsidies and cheap credit facilities to secure work and prevent further unemployment.

## BOC

Group profit, unaudited, for the six months to 31 March 1977 is:

	Six months to 31.3.77	Six months to 31.3.76	Year to 30.9.76
Group sales	313.77	313.76	30.9.76
Operating costs	273.0	271.4	807.6
Depreciation	52.0	42.3	98.9
Profit	17.2	12.9	30.1
Profit after tax	34.8	29.4	69.8
Profit after minority interest	11.6	9.6	22.3
Profit after tax and minority interest	46.3	39.0	92.1
Profit before tax	18.2	14.0	33.1
Profit after tax	8.3	5.1	13.7
Profit after tax and minority interest	10.0	8.8	22.6
Profit before tax	2.5	1.8	4.7
Profit after tax	0.3	0.3	16.9
Profit after tax and minority interest	46.3	39.0	92.1
Profit before tax	9.8	9.5	18.5
Profit after tax	36.5	28.5	73.6
Profit after tax and minority interest	18.1	15.7	40.3
Profit before tax	17.4	13.8	33.3
Profit after tax	3.4	2.7	6.3
Profit after tax and minority interest	14.0	11.1	27.0

earnings per share (based on 256 681 000 ordinary fully paid shares of 25p in issue at 31 March 1977) 5.46p 4.32p 10.50p

## Group capital, unaudited, at 31 March 1977

	At 31.3.77	At 31.3.76
Shareholders' funds	£ million 264.3	£ million 246.4
Minority shareholders' interests	55.5	51.5
Deferred taxation and capital grants	77.6	66.5
Net borrowings—loans and overdrafts net of cash and short term deposits	175.2	152.9
Fixed assets	356.6	332.4
Associated companies and investments	90.2	87.3
Working capital (excluding bank balances and short term loans)	125.8	97.6
Group trading profit	372.6	317.3

Group trading profit includes the company's 34% share in its associated company, Alroco Inc. The Board were pleased to learn on 19 May 1977 that the US Circuit Court of Appeals had overturned the Federal Trade Commission's earlier ruling that BOC International should divest its holding in Alroco.

Trading profit for the six months to 31 March 1977 has been reduced by extra depreciation of £7.9 million provided in anticipation of further asset realisations to be carried out by the end of the current financial year.

Starting has strengthened against other major currencies during the six months to 31 March 1977, but the effect on Group trading profit was not material.

The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 1.35p per share (last year 1.17p) payable on 7 October 1977 to the holders of existing Ordinary shares registered at the close of business on 6 September 1977.

Further copies of this report may be obtained from the Secretary, BOC International Ltd, Hemmings House, London, W6 9DX, tel. 01-748 2020.

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## Business appointments

### Leyland names new company secretary

Mr Percy Plant has been appointed company secretary of Leyland. He succeeds Mr Ronald Lees who retires at the end of this month.

Mr Peter Greider, marketing director of the Smiths Food Group, becomes general manager of a newly-created Smiths operations division. Reporting to him will be three other directors, Mr Gordon Alzary, newly-appointed technical director, Mr David Walters, newly-appointed production director, and Mr Ted Kompol, who becomes new product research and development director. Mr Keith Channon joins the group's board as marketing director. On July 1, Mr Jim Collins becomes group controller and finance director.

Mr W. M. Winstanley has been appointed deputy chairman of the phosphates sector of Albright & Wilson with effect from June 1.

Mr Alan J. M. Miller, formerly chairman of Bestobell, is to be the next chairman of the Law & Bonar Group. He succeeds Mr Ian C. Low who will retire on November 30.

Mr J. M. L. Evans and Mr D. D. Kiddon have retired from the board of Austin Reed Group.

Mr Geoffrey J. Knapman has been appointed a director of Medical Services Agency & Life Assurance Society.

Mr Charles Brown, managing director of J. A. Brown and Partners, Birmingham, has been elected president of the Electrical Contractors' Association for 1977-78.

Mr M. R. Kier has been made a director of Holdings Juggles, Money & Stewart.

Mr Alexander Kennaway has joined the board of Thomas Jordan.

Sir Nigel Strutt has been appointed a member of the Committee of Management of the British Food Agricultural Property Unit Trust.

Mr R. S. Clay becomes deputy chairman and Mr M. C. Ayton

managing director of Tilbury (EARSAT) from June 1.

Mr E. S. W. Hunt and Captain J. R. B. Longden retired from the board of directors of RTZ.

Mr B. P. Hayman has resigned as director of Ozzell Group Holdings.

Mr K. G. Spring Simpson is appointed a director of House Property Company of London.

Mr J. D. Spink has relinquished his duties as joint managing director of Berkeley Hambro to become resident in Hongkong. Mr E. H. Hawkins and Mr M. J. Boggis have been named additional managing directors with Mr M. L. Yulett. Mr D. D. Bailey, a senior executive, joins the board. Mr Spink will remain a non-executive director.

Mr J. A. Pereira, joint managing director of Bremer Holdings, has been appointed a director of Beckwith Trust.

Mr George Bishop is to be the new president of the West India Committee. He succeeds Lord Campbell of Eskan.

Mr A. G. Kanellis, a male board director of Peterson Zochonis, has been made managing director of Cussons Group, London. Mr Kanellis also a director of Peterson Zochonis, who remains a director of Cussons.

Mr J. G. Gilmore, managing director of Stratus Steamship Co, will succeed Mr R. C. Murrumbidgee as chairman when the latter retires on June 30.

Mr L. J. Clark joins the board of Victor Products (Walesland).

Mr R. D. Latham, Jr, has been made a director of Edinburgh and General Investments.

Mr James A. S. Clemenson has succeeded Mr Arthur Mason as chairman of Reddit & Coleman. Mr Clemenson remains chief executive. Mr Mason stays on the board as a non-executive director.

## NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

To the Holders of  
Compañía Anónima Nacional  
Teléfonos de Venezuela

8 1/2% Guaranteed Sinking Fund Debentures Due 1987

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Fiscal Agency Agreement dated as of December 15, 1973 providing for the above Debentures, \$500,000 principal amount of said Debentures bearing the following serial numbers have been selected for redemption on June 15, 1977, through operation of the Sinking Fund, at the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest thereon to said date:

DEBENTURES OF \$1,000 EACH	
26 43	1977 2080 4949 5202 6345 6610 7396 8614 8723 9071 9807 10454 11068 11991 12844 14129
101	1211 1326 1435 1542 1651 1760 1869 1978 2087 2196 2305 2414 2523 2632 2741 2850
29	2959 3068 3177 3286 3395 3504 3613 3722 3831 3940 4049 4158 4267 4376 4485
47	4594 4703 4812 4921 5030 5139 5248 5357 5466 5575 5684 5793 5902 6011 6120
55	6229 6338 6447 6556 6665 6774 6883 6992 7101 7210 7319 7428 7537 7646 7755
63	7864 7973 8082 8191 8300 8409 8518 8627 8736 8845 8954 9063 9172 9281 9390
71	9499 9608 9717 9826 9935 10044 10153 10262 10371 10480 10589 10698 10807 10916 11025
79	11134 11243 11352 11461 11570 11679 11788 11897 12006 12115 12224 12333 12442 12551 12660
87	12769 12878 12987 13096 13205 13314 13423 13532 13641 13750 13859 13968 14077 14186 14295
95	14404 14513 14622 14731 14840 14949 15058 15167 15276 15385 15494 15603 15712 15821 15930
103	16039 16148 16257 16366 16475 16584 16693 16802 16911 17020 17129 17238 17347 17456 17565
111	17674 17783 17892 18001 18110 18219 18328 18437 18546 18655 18764 18873 18982 19091 19200
119	19309 19418 19527 19636 19745 19854 19963 20072 20181 20290 20399 20508 20617 20726 20835
127	20944 21053 21162 21271 21380 21489 21598 21707 21816 21925 22034 22143 22252 22361 22470
135	22579 22688 22797 22906 23015 23124 23233 23342 23451 23560 23669 23778 23887 23996 24105
143	24214 24323 24432 24541 24650 24759 24868 24977 25086 25195 25304 25413 25522 25631 25740
151	25849 25958 26067 26176 26285 26394 26503 26612 26721 26830 26939 27048 27157 27266 27375
159	27484 27593 27702 27811 27920 28029 28138 28247 28356 28465 28574 28683 28792 28901 29010
167	29119 29228 29337 29446 29555 29664 29773 29882 29991 30100 30209 30318 30427 30536 30645
175	30754 30863 30972 31081 31190 31299 31408 31517 31626 31735 31844 31953 32062 32171 32280
183	32389 32498 32607 32716 32825 32934 33043 33152 33261 33370 33479 33588 33697 33806 33915
191	34024 34133 34242 34351 34460 34569 34678 34787 34896 35005 35114 35223 35332 35441 35550
199	35659 35768 35877 35986 36095 36204 36313 36422 36531 36640 36749 36858 36967 37076 37185
207	37294 37403 37512 37621 37730 37839 37948 38057 38166 38275 38384 38493 38602 38711 38820
215	38929 39038 39147 39256 39365 39474 39583 39692 39801 39910 40019 40128 40237 40346 40455
223	40564 40673 40782 40891 41000 41109 41218 41327 41436 41545 41654 41763 41872 41981 42090
231	42199 42308 42417 42526 42635 42744 42853 42962 43071 43180 43289 43398 43507 43616 43725
239	43834 43943 44052 44161 44270 44379 44488 44597 44706 44815 44924 45033 45142 45251 45360
247	45469 45578 45687 45796 45905 46014 46123 46232 46341 46450 46559 46668 46777 46886 46995
255	47104 47213 47322 47431 47540 47649 47758 47867 47976 48085 48194 48303 48412 48521 48630
263	48739 48848 48957 49066 49175 49284 49393 49502 49611 49720 49829 49938 50047 50156 50265
271	50374 50483 50592 50701 50810 50919 51028 51137 51246 51355 51464 51573 51682 51791 51900
279	52009 52118 52227 52336 52445 52554 52663 52772 52881 52990 53099 53208 53317 53426 53535
287	53644 53753 53862 53971 54080 54189 54298 54407 54516 54625 54734 54843 54952 55061 55170
295	55279 55388 55497 55606 55715 55824 55933 56042 56151 56260 56369 56478 56587 56696 56805
303	56914 57023 57132 57241 57350 57459 57568 57677 57786 57895 58004 58113 58222 58331 58440
311	58549 58658 58767 58876 58985 59094 59203 59312 59421 59530 59639 59748 59857 59966 60075
319	60184 60293 60402 60511 60620 60729 60838 60947 61056 61165 61274 61383 61492 61601 61710
327	61819 61928 62037 62146 62255 62364 62473 62582 62691 62800 62909 63018 63127 63236 63345
335	63454 63563 63672 63781 63890 64000 64109 64218 64327 64436 64545 64654 64763 64872 64981
343	65090 65199 65308 65417 65526 65635 65744 65853 65962 66071 66180 66289 66398 66507 66616
351	66725 66834 66943 67052 67161 67270 67379 67488 67597 67706 67815 67924 68033 68142 68251
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367	69995 70104 70213 70322 70431 70540 70649 70758 70867 70976 71085 71194 71303 71412 71521
375	71630 71739 71848 71957 72066 72175 72284 72393 72502 72611 72720 72829 72938 73047 73156
383	73265 73374 73483 73592 73701 73810 73919 74028 74137 74246 74355 74464 74573 74682 74791
391	74900 75009 75118 75227 75336 75445 75554 75663 75772 75881 75990 76099 76208 76317 76426
399	76535 76644 76753 76862 76971 77080 77189 77298 77407 77516 77625 77734 77843 77952 78061
407	78170 78279 78388 78497 78606 78715 78824 78933 79042 79151 79260 79369 79478 79587 79696
415	79805 79914 80023 80132 80241 80350 80459 80568 80677 80786 80895 81004 81113 81222 81331
423	81440 81549 81658 81767 81876 81985 82094 82203 82312 82421 82530 82639 82748 82857 82966
431	83075 83184 83293 83402 83511 83620 83729 83838 83947 84056 84165 84274 84383 84492 84601
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## French government steps to boost computer and machine tool sectors

Paris, May 25.—The French Cabinet has adopted a series of measures to help the computer, computer peripheral and machine-tool industries, according to a presidential spokesman.

Seven growth contracts would be concluded shortly to assist companies capable of creating computer systems and their principal constituents, and marketing them worldwide, M. Jean-Philippe Lecat said.

The Government would assist French computer peripheral development by systematically consulting small and medium-sized industries for public tenders, he added.

The Government had decided to double research and development efforts in the integrated circuits sector and to encourage the activities of companies manufacturing specific circuits.

He added that the Cabinet had requested the establishment of schemes for government departments to provide information about their computer needs.

Innovation would be encouraged, notably through development aid and comparison of French companies with foreign

groups using new techniques, through the intermediary of the Industrial Development Institute.

The Government measures also aimed to improve France's trading position in the machine-tool industry.

A unified programme had been decided on, to include industrial reorganization and the setting in motion of a professional export scheme depending on a finance company to be guaranteed by the institute, he said.—Reuter.

## Sharp fall in days lost by strikes last month

By David Blake

The number of days lost through strikes fell sharply during April from the million level reached the previous month. But at 391,000 days lost, the figure was twice as high as April last year and seemed to confirm the picture which has already emerged that 1977 is likely to be significantly worse for industrial unrest than was 1976, the year when strikes were greatly reduced by the workings of the pay policy. So far this year 2,830,000 days have been lost, compared to 1,165,000 in the first four months of last year.

There was a sharp drop in the number of disputes beginning during April, from 238 in March to 138 in April. Nearly half the days lost involved workers in disputes which had begun during the previous month, of which the most striking was the long-running strike at the Port Talbot works of the British Steel Corporation.

The metal manufacture section is now the second largest category in the strike league, with just over 250,000 days lost so far this year. But the worst record by far still belongs to the motor industry.

## Italian inflation hits 21.8pc

From John Earle

Rome, May 25.—Signor Gherardo Stamatini, the Italian Treasury Minister, today indicated that the Government's inflation policy was off target when he predicted that prices would rise by nearly 20 per cent this year.

In the letter of intent to the International Monetary Fund for its \$530m (about £312m) credit, the Government said the increase in consumer prices must be brought down to a maximum of 15 per cent in the 12 months ending mid-March, 1978.

Addressing Parliament's budget commission today, Signor

Stamatini said that instead of zero growth this year gross national product should rise 2 per cent, imports should increase 3.5 per cent in real terms (19 per cent in monetary terms) and exports by 9 per cent in real terms (27 per cent in monetary terms).

As he spoke the Government Statistics Office announced a 21.8 per cent rise in the cost of living in the first four months of this year compared with the same period of 1976.

The minister said growth in production continued into the first quarter of this year, but there were now the first signs of a slowdown.

## Norwegian plea on quotas

Leaders of the Norwegian pulp and paper industry yesterday urged Britain to increase the duty-free quotas for the import of paper and board from Norway. Mr Arild Holland, managing director of the Norwegian Pulp and Paper Association, said in London: "I am much concerned about the policy now pursued by the British authorities."

The duty-free quotas for 1977 for the import of paper and board were out of line with the actual trade, said Mr Holland. They should be increased so that the maximum permitted quotas could be introduced for 1978.

Britain's paper and board industry had gradually to prepare itself for the duty-free market which would be reintroduced on January 1, 1984. "With this in mind, the quotas each year should be identical to the maximum permitted."

The Norwegian government also issued a statement yesterday voicing concern over what was described as the United Kingdom's restrictive implementation of the duty-free quota arrangements.

"The United Kingdom position has caused considerable problems for several Norwegian manufacturers," the statement said.

## Accountants want slower CCA change

By Desmond Quigley

Opposition to the detail and scope of the Morphet Committee's recommendations on current cost accounting and the speed with which it has been suggested they should be introduced, has come from the Hundred Group, representing accountants in senior positions in industry and commerce.

A submission to the Inflation Accounting Steering Group on exposure draft 18, the Group comments: "The changes proposed in ED18 amount to a revolution in company accounts, the consequences of which cannot be fully foreseen at this stage."

A slower, more gradual approach is likely to achieve better ultimate accounting standards and to achieve them more quickly and acceptably than by the route proposed by ED18.

Last week the Midlands Industry Group of Finance Directors said that Morphet's plan for the introduction of CCA was "far too complex and endeavours to do too much too soon". The group proposed a three-phase introduction of CCA.

The Hundred Group is in agreement with the basic principles of ED18, but believes that the comprehensive nature of the proposals cover areas which it is not essential to bring within the scope of CCA.

It suggests instead a broader and less comprehensive approach which could permit and encourage the development of a variety of approaches to the problems involved and from which definitive accounting standards could be evolved.

The Morphet Committee is to hold a conference in July attended by representatives of accounting bodies from nine countries, to consider the international comparability of inflation accounts in order to minimize the amount of work multinational companies are likely to be involved in.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Inconsistency in CBI arguments on wage determination

From Mr M. D. Noor

Sir, The article by the Director General of the CBI on the future of wage determination (May 19) seems to indicate that the confederation is still a long way from a coherent policy in this area.

Mr Mathew stresses that he is a passionate believer in the market economy. However, he goes on to say, albeit reluctantly, that he still believes in the need for a further period of pay restraint. His argument is that two years of restraint have produced "so many pressures, distortions and anomalies" as to make it likely that the cost of unfettered bargaining would be far higher than we can afford.

It is difficult to understand why he believes that a further period of restraint would do other than add to the distortions and so make the problem of a return to free bargaining still more difficult.

Further, it is hard to see how the CBI's policy of a further reduction in the number of bargaining units can be consistent with belief in a market economy. The closer one comes to industry-level bargaining, the less incentive there is for employers to stand firm, since they will know that their competitive position vis-à-vis each other remains unchanged regardless of the size of any pay increase they concede. Also, surely the smaller the number

of bargaining units, the less responsive they will be to market conditions?

Finally, Mr Mathew asserts that the unions have "certainly not won from the existing system." It must be beyond doubt that the unionized section of the workforce has improved its position relative to the rest, and that the power of the unions and of their leaders has been enhanced. Whether or not the unions have in real terms "won" under the present system matters little so long as, with some justification, they continue to believe that they have.

Yours faithfully,  
M. D. NOOR,  
148 Sandridge Road,  
St Albans,  
Hertfordshire AL1 4AH,  
May 20.

From Mr Edward A. King  
Sir, The suggestions that auditors should monitor productivity deals under the phase three pay policy may at first sight seem attractive. However, they contain considerable difficulties.

If productivity deals are to be part of any new policy there is clearly a case for seeing they are properly set up and monitored. It is difficult, however, to see at what stage the auditor would come into the proceedings. If he is only to be involved after the scheme has been in

operation, then obviously it is too late for him to make substantial changes. If, on the other hand, he is to be involved at the time the deals are normally agreed, then he must take part of responsibility if things go wrong.

It may even be intended that he should be involved in actual monitoring of the measurement and other performance indices necessary to run a productivity scheme. The auditor would require special skills which can only be acquired through considerable specific training and experience.

Management and unions have difficulty in agreeing productivity schemes in the normal course of events. Under a pay policy there are going to be even more problems. Us they can be sorted out between the two parties with the aid of the qualified work-practitioner. The introduction of yet another party, i.e. auditor, can only make it more difficult and costly.

Yours faithfully,  
E. A. KING,  
Director and General Secy,  
Institute of Practitioners  
Work Study Organisation  
Methods,  
9/10 River Front,  
Enfield,  
Middlesex, EN1 3TE.  
May 18.

## Winning entries at the sponsored film festival

The British Sponsored Film Festival, the annual stocktaking of the industry, had a new look this year. Forsaking Brighton for London, and expanding from four to 10 days' viewing, it became something quite different from and, many believe, more useful than its predecessors: not so much a Festival, more a working seminar.

Having time, and the excellent facilities of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts in Piccadilly, the organizers, the British Industrial and Scientific Film Association, were able to screen all the 180 entries; there were no pre-selection panels and audiences could see all the films the judges saw.

They were shown in 10 categories, and this enabled people with special interests to come for their particular days. More "strangers" came in any one day this year than ever reached Brighton in a week.

This must be a good thing for a medium that is still under-used and not widely understood.

Variety of purpose was matched by variety of approach. The Financial Times Export Award went to *An Extrusion Puller Powered by Linear Motor*, from Edwards of Enfield, a concentrated six-minute film about the product; entirely descriptive, with no kind of



A still from "I Owe You", this year's winner of 'The Times' Newcomer Award at the BISFA Festival.

decorative trimming, but with a remarkable export record.

At the other end of the spectrum, a bronze award in the PR category went to *Sea Symphony*, sponsored by The Financial Times, GKN and Overseas Containers, a 52-minute television film that honours sailors everywhere, in particular those who sailed the record-breaking GB II in Sydney and back.

The gold and silver in the PR category went to BP and Shell respectively, for *The End of the Road* and *Waiting on Weather*, the one on the rigours of Alaska, the other on the rigours of the North Sea.

The successes of the big sponsors should not discourage

Wheeler panel for their exploitation of it.

It is in this context that *The Times* Newcomer Award is of interest. It goes to an element of film from a first-time sponsor, and some think it odd to see it won by a film produced by an established production company, as this year's winner, *I Owe You* was by Millbank Films.

It is of course the sponsor who is the Newcomer—this year, Training Services Agency; and the role of sponsors in film making is insufficiently appreciated.

The Clifford Wheeler Memorial Award was won this year by BP despite an element of handicapping by the panel for BP's considerable experience.

No record of any competition would be complete without its *quo homines* footnote. Why no award went to *A Place on the Map*, a beautiful picture of the Shetlands from Cousins, who are trying hard, to avoid

ruining the islands in their development; or to *Let's Sleep on It*, Myers' Bed's splendid set-up of sales films (but selling very hard itself); is this correspondent's festival mystery.

Eynon Smart

## Food numbering system

From Mr E. R. Evans

Sir, Patricia Tisdall suggests ("Savage delay start of computer checkouts for supermarket use"—May 18) that supermarket chains are holding back "until the food manufacturers agree on the number codes to use on their product labels".

As one closely involved in this work I can assure you that this is not the case. The decision on the numbering system to be used (and the symbol by which it can be represented on retail packs) is one which must be made jointly by food manufacturers and retailers.

The delay is regretted by food manufacturers and retailers alike. It is due to the need to resolve several technical issues currently under discussion within the European Article Number Association.

Food manufacturers and retailers recognize the importance of agreement in that body, before making final decisions for the United Kingdom, to ensure comparability between the systems in 12 European countries and the United States.

Yours faithfully,  
H. R. EVANS,  
Director and Secretary,  
Food Manufacturers' Federation Ltd,  
1-2 Castle Lane,  
Buckingham Gate,  
London SW1E 6DN,  
May 19.

tween the systems in 12 European countries and the United States.

Yours faithfully,  
H. R. EVANS,  
Director and Secretary,  
Food Manufacturers' Federation Ltd,  
1-2 Castle Lane,  
Buckingham Gate,  
London SW1E 6DN,  
May 19.

## Steel policies

From Mr E. B. Lloyd

Sir, Ten years ago the British steel industry supplied the steel that the country required at prices which, by and large, were the cheapest in Europe and was top of the league for labour relationships. Let not those who work in the industry be blamed. It is the policies that are disastrous.

Yours faithfully,  
E. B. LLOYD,  
Steelworks Consultant,  
Little Ghanford,  
Barns Green,  
Rushmore,  
Sussex,  
May 11.

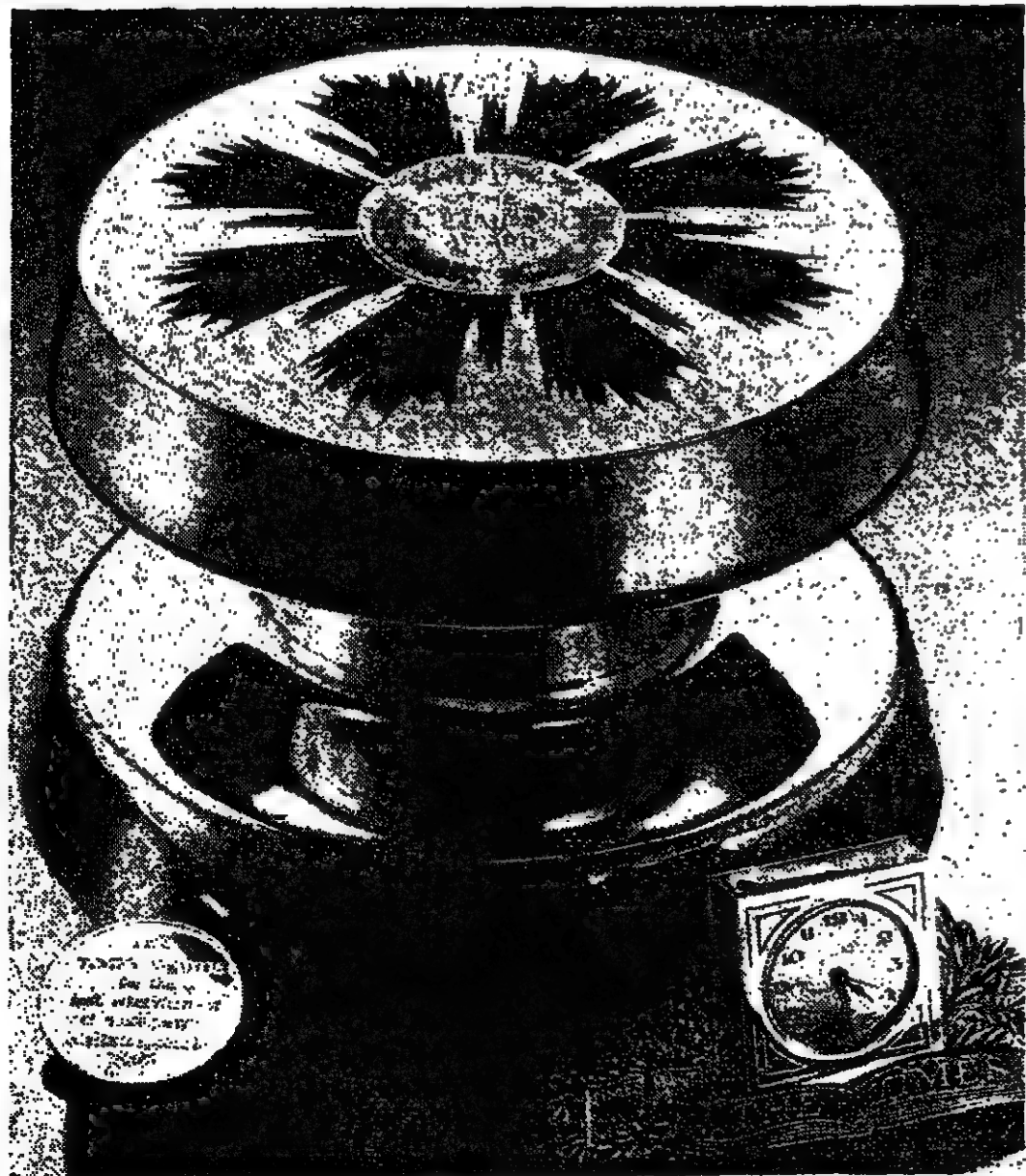
## Prejudice against girls

From Mr Ewan MacEwan

Sir, Both Dr Jeremy Bray Mr Oaks (May 18) say understand that the plea against girls becoming officers is primarily caused schools, secondly by parents only marginally by industry.

In the course of prep for my presidential address president of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, I listed an enquiry to every member of the three senior institutions and out of an 80 cent response I found the demand for women into engineering 94 per cent said we educate the teachers, 39 per cent said we educate parents and only 16 per cent wanted to educate the employers.

Yours faithfully,  
EWAN MACEWAN,  
Joseph Lucas Limited,  
Great King Street,  
Birmingham B19 2XP,  
May 20.



# THE TIMES AWARDS FOR THE BEST ADVERTISEMENT OF A COMPANY'S RESULTS FOR 1977.

### The Awards

The awards will follow the 1976 pattern, namely

- The Grand Prix, to be held for one year, awarded to the entrant whose advertisement is, in the opinion of the judges, the best submitted, irrespective of category. The Grand Prix consists of a silver trophy, specially designed for The Times by Gordon Hodgson.
- First, second and third prizes for category winners. Awards will be made both to the winning advertiser and agent.

### The Panel of Judges

The Awards will be made by an independent panel of judges, selected for their understanding of this specialised form of communication.

They will judge entries in accordance with the following criteria. An advertisement of a company's results, whether the Chairman's statement is or is not included in full or in abridged form, should:

- Attract the eye, by virtue of its design.
- Be easy to read, by the use of skilful typography.
- Contain such information as prospective investors or professional advisers are likely to require, including details of the business carried on by the company.
- Include, at the option of the advertiser, such illustrations, graphs, or diagrams as may be necessary to supplement (c) above.
- Leave the reader with the impression that the company concerned would be a good one to do business with, to work for, or to invest in.

Note: In the case of the categories 'Interim Results' or 'Preliminary Figures' only criteria (a) to (d) will apply.

### Conditions of Entry

All entries are free, but must have appeared in the pages of The Times Business News during 1977.

The following are the categories in which awards will be made:

- Annual Results.
  - Colour or Black and White. Half page or larger, or equivalent.
  - Colour or Black and White. Less than half page or equivalent.
- Interim Results or Preliminary Figures. Colour or Black and White (All sizes).
- Judges' Special Award.

The judges will have the option of making, at their absolute discretion, a special award. Details of the criteria for this award will be announced at a later date.

Entries will be accepted throughout the twelve month period January 1st–December 31st 1977, and should take the form of art pulls mounted on board, with a clear indication of the category in which they are to be judged. Six unmounted art pull should also be provided for the use of the Award Judges.

They should be sent to:

Michael Mander, Advertisement and Marketing Director,  
The Times Awards,  
The Times, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road,  
London WC1X 8EZ. Tel: 01-837 1234.

Presentation of the awards will be made early in 1978.

**THE TIMES**  
BUSINESS NEWS

As The Times Awards for the best advertisement of a company's results have aroused such considerable interest since their introduction in 1974, the competition now enters its fourth year during 1977.

The categories in which awards will be made are listed alongside. The conditions of entry remain unchanged.







## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## Back to reality on interest rate fears

After an initial burst of enthusiasm share prices went into reverse as second thoughts about the Government's profits and dividends concession and the fear that domestic interest rates may soon succumb to transatlantic influences brought a fair weight of selling.

Though talk of "massive" support for sterling and a 1 per cent increase in MLR this week or next to ease pressure on the currency was thought by most to be overdone, it played a major part in lowering the FT index 9.7 to 462.5 as profits were taken.

In the gilt-edged market longer dates opened with falls

Allied Breweries half-year figures, due next month, could produce a pleasant surprise. Most profit estimates are around the £34m mark, against £27.9m. But one broker is said to be going as high as £38m. Trade is said to have been reasonably buoyant and interest charges should be lower. The shares were steady against the trend at 73½p.

of up to half a point. These were later cancelled to over £1 in certain of the high-coupon stocks as Treasury bill rates started to show increases.

Increasingly, dealers are finding the present state of the market hard to assess.

The bogey of possible confirmation over another round of pay restraint is receding with most market men now accepting that the "middle way" of compromise is both desirable and likely. On the other hand, the interest rate storm clouds are building up and inflation is not yet seen as being completely under control.

The reaction of fund managers to this conflicting set of circumstances will be the deci-

sive factor in the coming weeks and months.

On the bid scene a surprise offer worth 40p a share from J. F. Nash, the last of the "independents" in the field, held firm at 57p in sympathy while R-R itself shed 2½p for a close of 69½p.

After its hotel deal Scottish & Newcastle shed 2p to 54p and in spite of agreed terms worth 24p from Mitchell Somers there was a 4p fall to 23p from Wolverhampton Die. Reliant Motor returned at 3p after news of a 1½p bid from J. F. Nash. Both Bay's Wharf 10p to 13p and Storey Brothers 7p to 8p lost more ground after the breakdown of takeover talks, while in a similar position was Laurence Scott, lower by 7p to 99p.

Though many of the issues favoured on Wednesday because of their dividend potential reacted to profit taking, there were some exceptions.

Notable among these were Ductile Steels up 12p to 148p, H. P. Bulmer 6p to 84p, Biscuits 15p to 156p, Lep Group 13p to 188p and GEC 2p to 192p.

After announcing a rights issue Maronair rose 12p to 150p

in the light of an increased dividend, press comment was good for a rise of 6p to 24p in Headlam Sims and Ladbrooke, a penny firmer at 131p after the annual meeting.

A favourable response to the Fox uranium report had Peko Walsend 15p to the good at 540p and Pan Continental £1.37 better at £11.87.

Among the industrial leaders both Courtaulds 5p to 122p and ICI 6p to 398p retreated ahead of today's figures. For the former some talk of a rights issue is largely discounted. Elsewhere in "blue chips" Unilever 49½p, Bechtel 48½p, Hawker Siddeley 63½p all lost ground, giving up 10p, 4p and 7p respectively.

In the building sector Thames Plywood was suspended at 120p on bid talks while another strong sponsor in the sector was Phoenix Timber which ended 4p ahead at 104p.

Concerned by the trend in interest rates there were some sharp falls in properties.

Among the weakest were Haslemere 11p to 202p, Hamerson "A" 8p to 447p, Land Securities 8p to 183p and MEPC which lost 7p to 87p.

In oils BP were hit by United

States influences and lost 18p to 528p, but Shell held firm at 552p on dividend hopes and Ultramar were weakened 16p to 177p after a disappointing quarterly report.

From a long list of companies reporting figures the pick were Avon Rubber which rose 8p to 157p after 165p on strong profits and BOC International which also turned in a solid

performance but lost 3p to 84p as profits were taken. Companies losing ground on figures were Redfern National 6p to 136p, Carpets International 4p to 70p and Fosroc Mining 4p to 190p.

A quarterly earlier in the week had Amalgamated Metal 9p up to 273p and Dunhill were boosted 45p to 350p.

Early turnover on May 24 was £39.45m (£17.64m bargain).

Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were ICI, Unilever, BP, Shell, Babcock & Wilcox, BAT, D.D., P. & O., Bar Ind, Lucas, Distillers, Bova, Thomas Tilling, Bova, Bechtel, Grand Metropolitan, Gas "A", Storey Brothers, Royal, Hay's Wharf, Pan Continental, Avon Rubber and Fodens.

## Redfern to recoup its half-time setback

By Our Financial Staff

Major reconstruction of the Barnsley plant has depressed the interim results of Redfern National Glass. On sales up from £15m to £17.5m, pre-tax profits for the six months to April 3 are down 16 per cent to £1.63m.

Although profits are down, Mr Stanley Race, the group's chairman, says that they are ahead of the board's budgets. The increased capacity made possible by the rebuild, however, which is now in operation, will be reflected in the group's final results. Over the whole of last year profits more than doubled to a record £3m. The group's order books are full and profits should end up ahead of last year's.

The market was nevertheless disappointed by the results and the group's shares lost 5p to 133p.

Earnings a share were 7.69p against 8.59p, while the board is raising the gross dividend from 133p to 194p to absorb all the permitted increase in dividends for this year.

Mr Race is convinced that it will be possible for the group to negotiate genuine productivity at the same time increase productivity from the investment in new plant and buildings.

Exports, coupled with the acquisition of companies with complementary trading activities, together with the increasing contribution of its subsidiaries, has proved to be successful, and will be continued.

Excluding Glover, Capper-Neill's turnover went up from £39.7m to £48.5m. Glover had turnover of £9.2m for the 15 months, including £7.2m pre-

## Strong growth and one-for-two scrip from Capper-Neill

By Tony May

A bumper set of results for the year to March 31, a one-for-two scrip issue and the prospect of a further rise in profits for the current year kept the share price of Capper-Neill aloft yesterday. On a day when most prices went down this most prices went up. A group saw an early gain of 3p wiped out to end level at 90p.

Including the Glover group since its acquisition in February, the group has pushed its pre-tax profits up from £2.76m to a record £4.23m. A breakdown of the results shows the trading profits of Capper-Neill for the year went up from £2m to £4.13m, while Glover's 15-month trading profit was £648,000, of which £508,000 was pre-acquisition.

Earnings a share went up from 9.49p to 12.92p.

Almost every company in the group contributed to the 52 per cent jump in profits, a major feature of which was a substantial increase in exports. Mr William Capper, chairman of this Capper-Neill-based group, says that its vigorous expansion in exports, coupled with the acquisition of companies with complementary trading activities, together with the increasing contribution of its subsidiaries, has proved to be successful, and will be continued.

Excluding Glover, Capper-Neill's turnover went up from £39.7m to £48.5m. Glover had turnover of £9.2m for the 15 months, including £7.2m pre-



Mr William Capper of Capper-Neill.

acquisition. This gives turnover attributable to the group of £50.5m—a rise of 27 per cent.

Mr Capper welcomes the news that dividend restraint will be removed and says that the board intends to pass the benefit of this on to shareholders as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, the group is raising its gross dividend from 3.96p to 4.35p to give a yield of 4.8 per cent. In the event of a reduction in A.C.T., further payment will be made.

The second half brought in the biggest slice of profits with a 27 per cent rise to £2.68m, compared with a 73 per cent increase to £1.51m at half time.

## Confidence but not much else at BHS

By Our Financial Staff

British Home Stores is "confident", says Sir Jack C. Hargrave, in his yearly report. But there is a risk to it for shareholders to share about.

First, he is confident that difficulties may lie ahead, the last quarter of financial year to April 3 a big drop in retail sales third, the modest amount of the consumer spend 1977. Our experience so the current year reinforces view.

The chairman looked at a rough year to April 2 profits rose from £21.9 to £25.5m, but sales fell from £211m to £204m but that reflected inflation.

In the key Christmas pre-Budget fears of an in VAT switched some of the consumer spend 1977. Our experience so the current year reinforces view.

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## Stimulus to beer sales helps Greenall top market hopes

By Ashley Druker

Apex from the direct benefit of a stimulus to sales of beer and lager, the non-brewing divisions of Lancashire brewers Greenall Whiskey also turned in a lively performance in the opening half to March 25.

Market expectations were around £4m for the half, and some £10m for the full term, with the half-time outcome comfortably above that projection by nearly £250,000.

There is again a fresh long hot summer as in 1976, it is doubtful whether the final stage to September 24, 1977, will match the same period of last year.

Nevertheless, the board is looking to a good increase over 1975-76's record £8.65m. This time round of course will take in Stanneyland Group, the Man-

chester-based hotels and restaurants chain, which was won after a long drawn-out battle with Associated Leisure. The bid went unconditional in April, when Greenall held about 87 per cent of the equity.

For the latest half, pre-tax profits improved 29 per cent to £4.24m on turnover expanded from £40.29m to £50.87m. This was struck after a steeper bill for repairs to properties at £1.47m against £1.9m, but after depreciation down from £938,000 to £889,000. Interest payable was up from £503,000 to £655,000. Earnings a share work out 4.2p compared with 3.27p and on the "A" ordinary 0.84p against 0.69p. The interim headline on the ordinary is lifted from 1.64p gross to 1.75p.

Generally beer sales volume showed a "healthy" increase, the board says, and particularly Greenall Lager. The non-brewing side also made an increased contribution to the overall results.

The company, commenting on the referral of the brewing industry to the Prices Commission for a special investigation, says that it should lead to delays in recovering cost increases. In a period of renewed inflation, it will quickly have an adverse effect on profitability, and consequently on investments and jobs. That apart, the way seems clear for another strong performance and, at least, a full-time £10m.

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## Dunhill again shows its dividend scope

By Our Financial Staff

Once again, Alfred Dunhill, known around the world for luxury lighters, pipes and men's toiletries has seen its margins narrow, and yet again it has taken the squeeze in its stride.

Behind the scenes of the Dunhill family at the last count, 20 per cent. There is however some interest in the shares and yesterday they had the distinction of rising 3p to 348p.

This of course owed nothing to the dividend which rose the normal 10 per cent to 12p (Dunhill is not a "close" company) but everything to the profits. At the attributable level these were £4.5m and the dividend alone only £55,539.

As the last count Dunhill had plenty of cash and recently it used £1.58m to buy 60 per cent of a highly regarded West German pen making company, Montblanc Meisterstück. Now the group has the capacity to make as well as sell its own luxury pens.

overseas tax accounted for £4.48m, leaving only £269,109 for tax deferred, presumably indefinitely. So the rise in earnings a share from 40.5p to 51.1p is more or less genuine.

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## Martonair's £1.2m rights

By Nicholas Hirst

Martonair International, the pneumatic control equipment manufacturer, is raising £1.2m by a rights issue on a one-for-eight basis at 100p a share.

Mr G. Godwin, chairman, giving reasons for the issue, says that although expected cash flow and bank facilities should be adequate to finance current capital expenditure and the increased level of working capital required to finance the upturn in the group's trading, more capacity will be required to take full advantage of a

continuing buoyancy of demand.

It is also felt that the rights issue will ensure that funds are readily available for further growth opportunities in both market and product development, which are likely to arise both in the United Kingdom and overseas during this year and next.

The rights issue is accompanied by a profits forecast for the year to July 31 of not less than £3m which compares with £2.2m last year. Half-year profits, however, last month were up from £815,000 to £1.4m before tax.

Meanwhile sales continue both at home and overseas and record results are expected.

If the estimated profit for the year is achieved, a dividend of 5.69p is recommended which will be a total of 8.13p gross to year compared with 5.12p last year. Treasury consent has been obtained for this increase.

At the overnight price of 140p, the issue is at a discount of 26.4 per cent. Half-year dividend increase of 10p on the ex-rights price per cent.

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At the overnight price of 140p, the issue is at a discount



COMMODITIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Confidence but not much at BHS selling

Coffee prices declined sharply... but not much at BHS selling

about prices (midday indicators)

Bank Base Rates

Table with 2 columns: Bank Name, Rate

BOOSEY & HAWKES MUSIC PUBLISHERS AND MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MAKERS

Three months... 25,500-27,000

Germany expect consumption of coffee to drop

Forward Levels

Table with 2 columns: Commodity, Price

Table with 2 columns: Bank Name, Rate

Table with 2 columns: Bank Name, Rate

Foreign Exchange

The Bank of England has quickly brought sterling back under control in foreign exchange markets...

Spot Position of Sterling

Table with 2 columns: Location, Rate

Gold

Table with 2 columns: Location, Price

Eurosyndicat

Table with 2 columns: Location, Price

Discount market

Very heavy tax payments again contributed to extremely tight money conditions in the discount market...

Money Market Rates

Table with 2 columns: Term, Rate

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Table with multiple columns: Fund Name, Assets, etc.

Wall Street

New York, May 25. Prices on the New York Stock Exchange closed sharply lower over a wide range after an early rally...

Cocoa: 6c limit up

Coffee

Grains

Table with multiple columns: Commodity, Price

Canadian Prices

Table with multiple columns: Commodity, Price



## Widespread profit taking

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

مكتبة ابن النجار



Report May 25 1977

# Guidelines for dismissing actions for want of prosecution

James Lord Diplock, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, Lord Salmon, Lord Davies and Lord Russell have today issued guidelines for the first time on the principles to be applied in exercising the jurisdiction to dismiss actions for want of prosecution. Since the jurisdiction has been a steady stream of applications, and the guidelines have now been given to the judges, it is expected that the number of such applications will be reduced.

The guidelines, which are set out in a series of principles, are intended to provide a framework for the exercise of the jurisdiction. They are based on the principle that the court should not exercise its power to dismiss an action unless it is satisfied that the defendant has failed to prosecute the action with due diligence.

The principles are as follows:

- (1) Where leave to appeal was granted, an appellate court should regard its function as primarily supervisory, and should not exercise its power to dismiss an action unless it is satisfied that the defendant has failed to prosecute the action with due diligence.
- (2) Where leave to appeal was not granted, the court should regard its function as primarily supervisory, and should not exercise its power to dismiss an action unless it is satisfied that the defendant has failed to prosecute the action with due diligence.
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of Appeal

## Effect of inflation on fatal accident awards

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## pricing plan of Nine

Commission maintains  
s would help to protect  
against misleading  
by enabling them  
simple comparisons  
of prices. The  
on believe would  
nsive competition help  
prices lower and  
the waste resulting  
in types of packaging  
in EEC states, including  
have already adopted  
on unit pricing, and  
ers are moving towards

## Men accused over 10 killings

Two men appeared at Belfast Magistrates' Court yesterday on charges relating to 10 killings in the city. One of them, William Moore, aged 28, an unemployed fitter of West Circular Road, Belfast, was charged with nine of the murders, and one attempted murder. Robert Samuel McAllister, aged 22, of Lambhill Square, Belfast, was charged with four murders and an attempted murder. A juvenile who was 16 in January was accused jointly with

## Court savings suggested

From Our Legal Correspondent  
Blackpool  
A list of savings that could be made in magistrates' courts has been suggested by Mr George Whitfield, president of the Justices' Clerks' Society. Speaking at the society's annual conference at Blackpool, yesterday, he said that the service of magistrates by clerks would save an estimated £120,000 a year. Another saving would be to discontinue the award of costs to the police, which produced no

## President Park accepts US troop withdrawal

Seoul, May 25.—President Park today accepted as an accomplished fact the Carter Administration's plan to withdraw the 33,000 American ground troops stationed in South Korea, over four or five years, a presidential spokesman said. The President had three hours of talks with Mr Philip Habib, United States Under-Secretary of State, and General George Brown, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who arrived here yesterday to open consultations on the proposed withdrawal. The spokesman quoted President Park as saying: "What South Korea should do over the next four or five years is to continue its self-defence efforts. Positive United States support and cooperation is essential in efforts to achieve this goal." Reuters.

## House of Lords

### False claim never in mind, GLC man says

Myrd Harrington, aged 45, a school teacher and former deputy leader of the Greater London Council, who is accused as the Central Criminal Court of expenses fraud, said yesterday that it would never have entered his mind to make a false claim. He told the jury: "I was not dishonest. I was given the highest job in local government in Britain and I knew what was on my back and this would never have entered my mind for one second."

Mr Harrington, of Salisbury Street, St. Marylebone, denied eight charges alleging that he made inaccurate claims for expenses totalling £173,672 while a member of the GLC and a magistrate at Willesden.

He said that as soon as he was summoned in connection with the allegations he asked to be excused further masterful duty until the matter was resolved. He added: "I regarded it very much as a matter of honour and my ability to judge my fellow magistrates."

He decided not to claim any further expenses until the matter had been settled. Looking at one of the charges he submitted, he said he had been "asking for trouble." He admitted that he had relied on memory alone to complete the forms.

### Generating board fined £400 over man's death

The Central Electricity Generating Board was fined the maximum of £400 by magistrates at Dursley, Gloucestershire, yesterday, after a death was caused by a boiler accident at Berkeley nuclear power station. The board was fined for failing to meet safety regulations in connection with the death of Mr Robert Young, aged 29, of Rossberry Road, Dursley.

Mr John Harvey, prosecuting for the Health and Safety Executive, said the boiler had been in use for 10 years and had not been properly maintained. He said that the boiler had been found to be in a dangerous state and that the board had failed to take any steps to ensure its safety.

Mr A. F. Perry, chairman of the bench, said: "There is one common feature in this case and that is that the CEGB has admitted negligence."

Any board in charge of such a complex, whose computer parts are of such a vulnerable nature, should ensure that the safety regulations have first priority and are adhered to in every possible measure."

### UDA man in Scotland gets 10 years

From Our Correspondent  
Stirling  
Harold Bell, aged 33, said to be a member of the Ulster Defence Association in Scotland, was sentenced to 10 years in prison yesterday for the murder of a police officer. He was caught by the police as he tried to send eight sticks of explosives by mail to Northern Ireland. It was stated at the High Court in Stirling, yesterday, Lord Ross jailed him for 10 years.

Mr Bell, a New Zealander, who had been living at Albany Terrace, Broxburn, Lothian, and working as a van driver, admitted possessing explosives. He was caught by the police as he tried to send eight sticks of explosives by mail to Northern Ireland. It was stated at the High Court in Stirling, yesterday, Lord Ross jailed him for 10 years.

### Dog sniffed out £100,000 of drug in crate

Cannabis valued at £100,000, hidden inside a consignment of oil paintings, was sniffed out by a Labrador dog named Brandy, it was stated at the Central Criminal Court yesterday. The dog had been used for only a few weeks by customs men at Gatwick airport, London, when he led them to one of the largest single seizures of the drug in this country, it was stated.

He sniffed around the cargo shed and barked at a crate of 80 oil paintings by a "struggling" artist, John Lusala, Mr Lusala, of Francis Chichester Way, Battersea, London, denied smuggling almost 220lb of cannabis.

He was found guilty and Judge Smith, QC, remanded him in custody until June 2 for sentence and ordered deportation papers to be served.

Mr Ian Davidson, QC, for the defence, said Mr Lusala was of previous good character and had never before been involved in any drug offences. "There were many others in this affair," he added, "and very likely an English consignment, who are not before the court."

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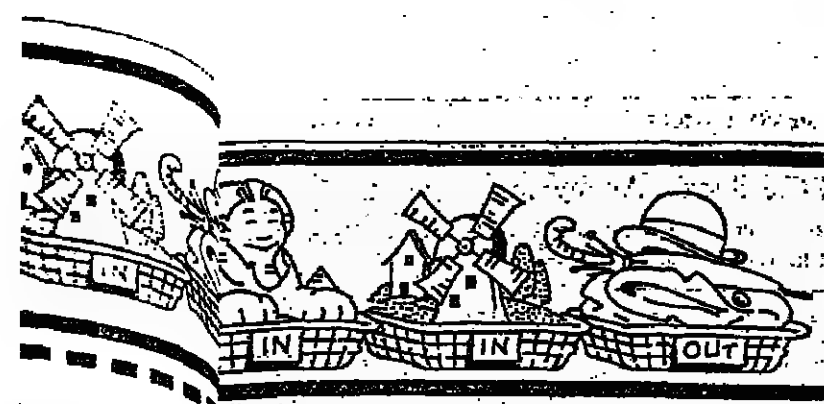
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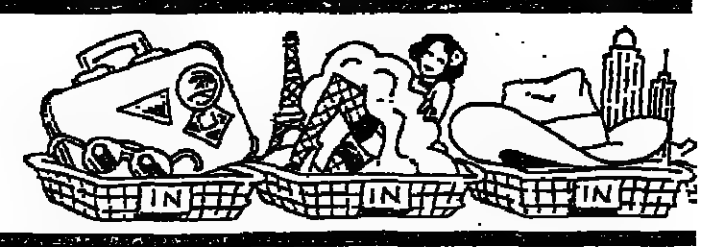








# Focus on overseas appointments



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are acting as consultants for a major overseas project and wish to recruit Resident Site in the following disciplines:

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power distribution, lighting, navigational aids, runway lighting.

Contract period (negotiable) between 2 and 3 years. Accommodation provided on married or bachelor status. UK leave with fares paid; contribution towards children's local education (up to £11). Generous end of contract gratuity.

Salaries (tax free) negotiable in the range £8,000-£10,000 p.a.

Applications, quoting the appropriate discipline and reference number to:

Mr. L. Jones,  
Supt. Personnel Manager,  
Frederick Snow (International) Ltd.,  
14 Southwark Street,  
London SE1 9SZ.

## Going abroad for the money

A friend who has recently left to mastermind, as he insists on saying with tongue in cheek, a project in a Middle East oil state found it difficult to explain precisely why he had accepted the job. Maybe it was the money offered, the professional challenge, or dissatisfaction with present standards in the United Kingdom, he said.

Accountancy Personnel point out that most people go abroad to accumulate a large sum of money and are prepared to endure a certain amount of deprivation and hardship, but the balance between what is acceptable and what is intolerable is a very fine one.

The dream job can turn into a nightmare, as experienced by three men who flew out to Qatar in the Gulf. Arriving at the airport at 3 a.m. after a 24-hour flight, there was no representative of their employer to meet them. The airport was miles from the main township and there were no taxis available. Eventually after a lot of walking they reached their new homes at seven a.m.

Their new employer, who had interviewed them in one of London's grand hotels, had mentioned air-conditioned, self-contained apartments, and so it was the final straw when they found themselves, all three, sharing one room with a broken fan for air-conditioning. Disillusioned they returned to the airport and flew straight back to England.

When one considers that in 1967, Abu Dhabi was only a fishing village and now it is a busy modern city, the reasons for such problems are obvious. The contrast between life abroad and that in Britain is particularly disappointing for people who have not worked in the Middle East before.

It is the shortage of skilled craftsmen and engineers that forces the Arabs to invite European and American companies to lead their development projects. The companies know that their clients are immensely rich, and the Arabs have no alternative but to pay for the skills they lack. Saudi Arabia has more currency reserves than the USA, and oil revenues bring the Saudis an annual per capita income of over £7,000 each. They tend to impose hard conditions on the foreign suppliers, often restricting imports of labour and only allowing in men whose work cannot be done by a national.

Tax systems influence salaries a great deal, and in the recruitment business it is after-tax earnings that matter. Countries such as Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar have no tax, but others have levels up to 30 per cent.

The EEC has not improved job opportunities for British engineers significantly. Most engineers would gladly work in Europe as culturally and climatically it is highly acceptable. Tax rates and cost of living may together somewhat reduce the impact of the distinctly higher salary levels.

There is a trickle of emigration to Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. The last of these, South Africa, is worth a mention. The terms offered to technicians and technologists are now very attractive, salaries being 50 per cent or more above those in the United Kingdom, and the cost of living is, if anything, a little lower.

The influence that the UK tax system, low managerial and professional salaries and the decline in living standards in the United Kingdom has on decisions to take a job abroad are also highlighted in a report recently compiled for Overseas Recruitment Services.

The survey concentrated on four main employment areas—construction and engineering, hotels and catering, medical and nursing, and secretarial. Of the total sample 63 per cent said they were going abroad for higher salaries and the same percentage said that they were hoping to gain more experience. In the 31 to 50 age group—the qualified and trained sector—29 per cent gave the United Kingdom tax system as a contributory factor in moving abroad and 51 per cent cited falling living standards in the United Kingdom.

The majority of the respondents to the survey also said that they would be setting off to begin their new jobs in an optimistic mood. Sixty-one per cent were enthusiastic about working abroad and as many as one in three could think of no problems attached to the new venture at all. However, one-third thought that different cultural standards abroad would be a problem, one in four expected to feel lonely or homesick, and one in five thought they might find it difficult in adapting to a new type of life.

Analysis of the sample by the size of organization for which these people were going abroad showed that the great majority came from large organizations. Sixty-two per cent had worked for firms employing over 100 and 43 per cent in firms with more than 500 employees.

David Young

**MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**  
**Mosul University, Mosul-Iraq**

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR

### Lectureship in English language

to provide service courses in English at Science Colleges, for the academic year 1977, 1978 beginning September 1, 1977.

Salary scale range between £2,700 to £11,400 per annum plus housing allowance and travel expenses.

Applicants should be native speakers with experience in teaching English to Science students in Foreign Countries.

The following degrees are required: B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in English or linguistics and preferably a diploma in English as a Foreign or second language.

For further details apply the University at the address above. Thanking you.

### WORKING ABROAD?

THE FINANCIAL DO'S AND DON'TS ON TAX, EXCHANGE CONTROL AND PERSONAL INVESTMENTS

For those Britons considering working overseas or already doing so, who wish to realise the full potential of an extremely favourable investment position and increased earnings, Money Management Magazine has just published the definitive financial guide 'Working Abroad 7'. Normal price £5.50.

#### SPECIAL OFFER TO TIMES READERS

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are a highly specialised technical and engineering recruitment agency, with an affiliated design company.

need has arisen for a bi-lingual representative to sell our vision throughout Europe, with a particular emphasis on Italy, Belgium and France.

Ideal applicant will have a background in engineering recruitment and have a sound knowledge of European commerce.

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Tel: 01-752 7385

### Middle East

#### 2 British Lawyers

LEADING LAW PRACTICE IN THE GULF REQUIRES TWO BRITISH LAWYERS IMMEDIATELY WITH SOME COMMERCIAL EXPERIENCE. TWO-YEAR CONTRACT OFFERED WITH EXCELLENT PROSPECTS.

Applications with CV to: The Secretary, 34 Cheshwood Gardens, Richmond, Surrey.  
TEL: 01-766 6317

### FRANCE

Centrifal is looking for English Language Teachers for centres in Paris and the French Provinces, for September, 1977.

Candidates must have English Mother Tongue, a University Degree and/or Teaching Diploma.

Experience in TEFL would be an advantage. Please send full C.V. to:

CENTRALE  
35 Rue Vignon  
Paris 75006

Initial selection and training will take place in London.

### HONG KONG

#### SHIPPING LITIGATION SOLICITOR

Johnson Stokes and Master (practising in association in Hong Kong with Norton, Rose, Butterfield & Orme) requires a shipping litigation solicitor. Candidates with general experience of collision, cargo and charterparty work preferred.

Attractive salary (£7,500 p.a. upwards depending on experience) and fringe benefits.

Apply Box 1238 J, The Times.



## NIGERIAN AIR FORCE

### DIRECT SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION INTO THE NIGERIAN AIR FORCE

1. Applications are invited from suitably qualified Nigerians for appointment to Direct Short Service Commission into the Nigerian Air Force in the following fields:-

**a. MEDICAL SERVICES**

- (1) Physicians
- (2) Surgeons
- (3) Obstetricians/Gynaecologist
- (4) Paediatricians

(5) Radiologists

(6) Pathologists

(7) Otolaryngologists

(8) Ophthalmologists

(9) General Practitioners

(10) Dentists

**b. PHARMACY**

**c. ENGINEERING**

**d. ACCOUNTANCY**

**e. NURSING**

**f. OTHER PARA-MEDICALS**

2. QUALIFICATIONS: a-f

**a. Medicine.** A degree registrable both with the Medical Council of U.K. and the Nigerian Medical Council with appropriate Specialist qualifications. In addition, a Post-Specialist qualification experience of not less than 5 years is desirable. The general practitioners should possess a degree registrable both with the Medical Council of U.K., and the Nigerian Medical Council.

**b. Pharmacy.** A degree or any other qualification, registrable both with the Pharmacy Board of U.K. and the Pharmacy Board of Nigeria.

**c. Engineering.** A degree or any other equivalent qualifications registrable with the Council of Registered Engineers of Nigeria in the following fields of specialization:-

- (1) Mechanical Engineering.
- (2) Electrical Engineering.
- (3) Civil Engineering.
- (4) Automobile Engineering.
- (5) Aeronautical Engineering.
- (6) Structural Engineering.
- (7) Electronics Engineering.
- (8) Architectural Engineering.

**d. Accountancy.** Must possess any of the following qualifications: A.C.A., A.C.C.A., A.C.M.A., A.C.W.A., A.C.I.S., B.Sc. (Accountancy), or B.Sc. (Econs.) majoring in Accountancy.

**e. Nursing Officers.**

- (1) Candidates with the following double qualifications will be eligible for Commission after 3 years post Registration.
- (a) R.N. & R.M.
- (b) S.R.N. & S.C.M.
- (c) S.R.N. & R.M.N.
- (d) R.N. & R.P.N.

- (2) Candidates must possess any of the following single qualifications with five years post qualification experience.
- (a) R.N.
- (b) R.M.N.
- (c) S.R.N. or
- (d) B.Sc. (Nursing).

(3) All intending applicants must possess a minimum of W.A.S.C. or G.C.E. "O" level as basic qualification.

**f. Para-Medicals.**

- (1) Physiotherapists. A degree in Physiotherapy or any membership of Chartered Society of Physiotherapists and registrable with the Nigerian Physiotherapy Board.
- (2) Occupational Therapists. A degree in Occupational Therapy or membership of the Chartered Society of Occupational Therapists or any other equivalent qualification.
- (3) Medical Laboratory Technologists. A degree in medical Laboratory Technology or Associate Member of the Institute of Medical Laboratory Technologists.
- (4) Radiographers. A degree in Radiography or membership of the Society of Radiographers.
- (5) Dental Technologists. A degree in Dental Technology or W.A.S.C./G.C.E. "O" Level and City and Guilds Finals with 3 years' post qualification experience in Dental Technology or any other equivalent qualification.
- (6) Hospital Administration. A degree in Hospital Administration or Associate membership of Hospital Administration.
- (7) Dieticians. A degree in Dietetics or membership of the Institute of Dietetics registrable in Nigeria.
- (8) Medical Records. A degree in Medical Records Administration or Associate Membership of Medical Records Officers.

3. CONDITION OF SERVICE

a. Direct Short Service Commission will be granted to successful candidates for three years in the first instance and may be extended to six or nine years thereafter. Regular Commission may also be granted after three years.

b. Pay and allowances will be in accordance with the Nigerian Armed Forces Pay Scale of 1974. An additional Corps Pay Allowance will also be granted to Medical Officers at the Armed Forces approved rate.

4. METHOD OF APPLICATION

a. Applications should be addressed to Defence Adviser, Nigeria High Commission, 9 Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2, marked "Direct Commission (N.A.F.)" and to reach him not later than 30th June, 1977.

b. Applications should be in triplicate accompanied by photostat copies of original Educational and Professional Certificates and giving the names and addresses of three referees.

c. Selected candidates will be required to attend an interview with the N.A.F. Selection Board on a date to be notified later.

More  
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page 3











## Secretarial Appointments

**SLEEPY HEAD WANTED**  
Can't get up in the morning? Then you're just the person we're after. Young businesswoman, Secretary to work 12 hours a day, 5.30 a.m. to 10.30 p.m. in a fast growing advertising Employment Bureau based in Paddington. £2,500 per annum.  
TEL. 01-402 6346

**WE WISH YOU WERE HERE!**  
When you join our secretarial team, you will be part of a team which will be working for you. We will contact you when we have a vacancy for a secretarial position. We will contact you when we have a vacancy for a secretarial position. We will contact you when we have a vacancy for a secretarial position.  
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21 BROMPTON ARCADE  
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589 8807 or 589 0010  
The place for top jobs

**SECRETARIES**  
Secretaries required for leading business firms. Must have good secretarial skills and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Excellent perks and salary. Hours 9.15-5.15, 4 weeks' holiday. For further details contact Gail  
734 8874

**SECRETARY/SHORTHAND TYPIST**  
Required by Government Agency. Must be able to type and shorthand. Excellent salary and benefits. For further details contact  
Phone Mr. Wheeler, 01-828 6751.

**PARIS AREA**  
International Secretarial Office. Experienced Audio Typist. No French required. Very comfortable working conditions. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
01-828 6751

**BUSINESSMAN**  
With financial background and administrative skills. Salary £3,000 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
01-828 6751

**SECRETARY**  
Accountant to accompany him and be responsible for his personal records. Must be non-union, initiative, starting salary up to £3,000 p.a. For further details contact  
01-828 6751

**M.C.C.**  
Secretarial Director of the M.C.C. is seeking a well educated, energetic person to act as his Secretary. The person must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
01-828 6751

**PERSONNEL**  
A new appointment in the Headquarters of CompAir in Slough. The person must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
01-828 6751

**DESIGNERS GUILD CHELSEA**  
Need young enthusiastic Secretary with good secretarial skills and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
01-828 6751

**ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY TO £3,500**  
A well known West End Firm of Estate Agents are looking for a Secretary. The person must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £3,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
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**A VERY SPECIAL PERSON**  
Desperately required by architect's office. The person must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
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**JUNIOR SECRETARY**  
Required by a leading firm. The person must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
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**BOOK PUBLISHING**  
The Publishing Director of this small company needs a Secretary. The person must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
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**ASSOCIATED BUSINESS PROGRAMMES LTD.**  
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Our Fulham Flat Department requires a competent person to meet the public. The person must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
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Small West End practice seeks Secretary. The person must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
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**MEDICAL EDUCATION Additional Secretary**  
Required to join his young team involved in postgraduate education for doctors. Good secretarial and typing skills. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
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**LITIGATION PARTNER**  
Required by a leading firm. The person must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
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**SECRETARY (AUDIO)**  
Sgt. Frederick Snow & Consulting Engineers. The person must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
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**SECRETARY (AUDIO)**  
Required for an Associate and Secretary. The person must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
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To give general assistance to a group of design engineers. The person must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
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To be responsible for bookings and general assistance. The person must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Salary £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. For further details contact  
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**DEATHS**  
ALDER—On May 23, at a London nursing home, Mrs. Beatrice Alder, nee Jones, aged 84, wife of the late Mr. John Alder, of 10, St. Paul's Church, Church of England, died. Burial at St. Paul's Church, Church of England, on May 26, 1977, at 11 a.m.

**IN MEMORIAM**  
DUNKER, JOE GERRISON, of 339, Park Road, Church of England, died on May 23, 1977, at 11 a.m. Burial at St. Paul's Church, Church of England, on May 26, 1977, at 11 a.m.

**FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS**  
I. H. KENYON LTD. FUNERAL DIRECTORS, 40, Edgware Road, W.2, 01-278 9161.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
CHARLES EDWARD FERRIS, of 10, St. Paul's Church, Church of England, died on May 23, 1977, at 11 a.m. Burial at St. Paul's Church, Church of England, on May 26, 1977, at 11 a.m.

**SAVE THE CHILDREN**  
appeals for help to support its work for the world's needy children.

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137, Clapham Road, London SW9 0PT.

**CANCER RESEARCH**  
Much more information is needed about the causes of cancer.

**THE LATIN MASS SOCIETY**  
Solihull High Mass 11.30 a.m. on May 28, followed by a sung Mass at 1.30 p.m.

**MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**  
Lecturer in English Language.

**CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN**  
The largest single supporter of the U.K. of research into all forms of cancer.

**THE GEMINI BALL**  
In aid of the Gemini Ball, to be held at the Casino Royale.

**MEMORIAL SERVICES**  
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mrs. Beatrice Alder, nee Jones, will be held at St. Paul's Church, Church of England, on May 26, 1977, at 11 a.m.

**ACROSS**  
1. Four people sit awkwardly like the first Mrs. Pinkerton (13).

**DOWN**  
1. Eric Smallman's autobiography (6, 2, 6).

**PERSONAL COLUMNS**  
ALSO ON PAGES 36 AND 37

**FORTECOMING EVENTS**  
JUBILEE JUMPER—Outstanding young musicians introduced by the Royal Academy of Music.

**CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
THE NEW CASLIGHT—London's unique gentlemen's club.

**YACHTS AND BOATS**  
ROYAL REVIEW of the Fleet, June 2nd, 1977, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**SPORT AND RECREATION**  
WELL KEPT—A new magazine for the sportsman.

**UK HOLIDAYS**  
BYGONE HOLIDAYS—Traditional holiday homes for rent.

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